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Battle-Grounds of the Maumee Valley

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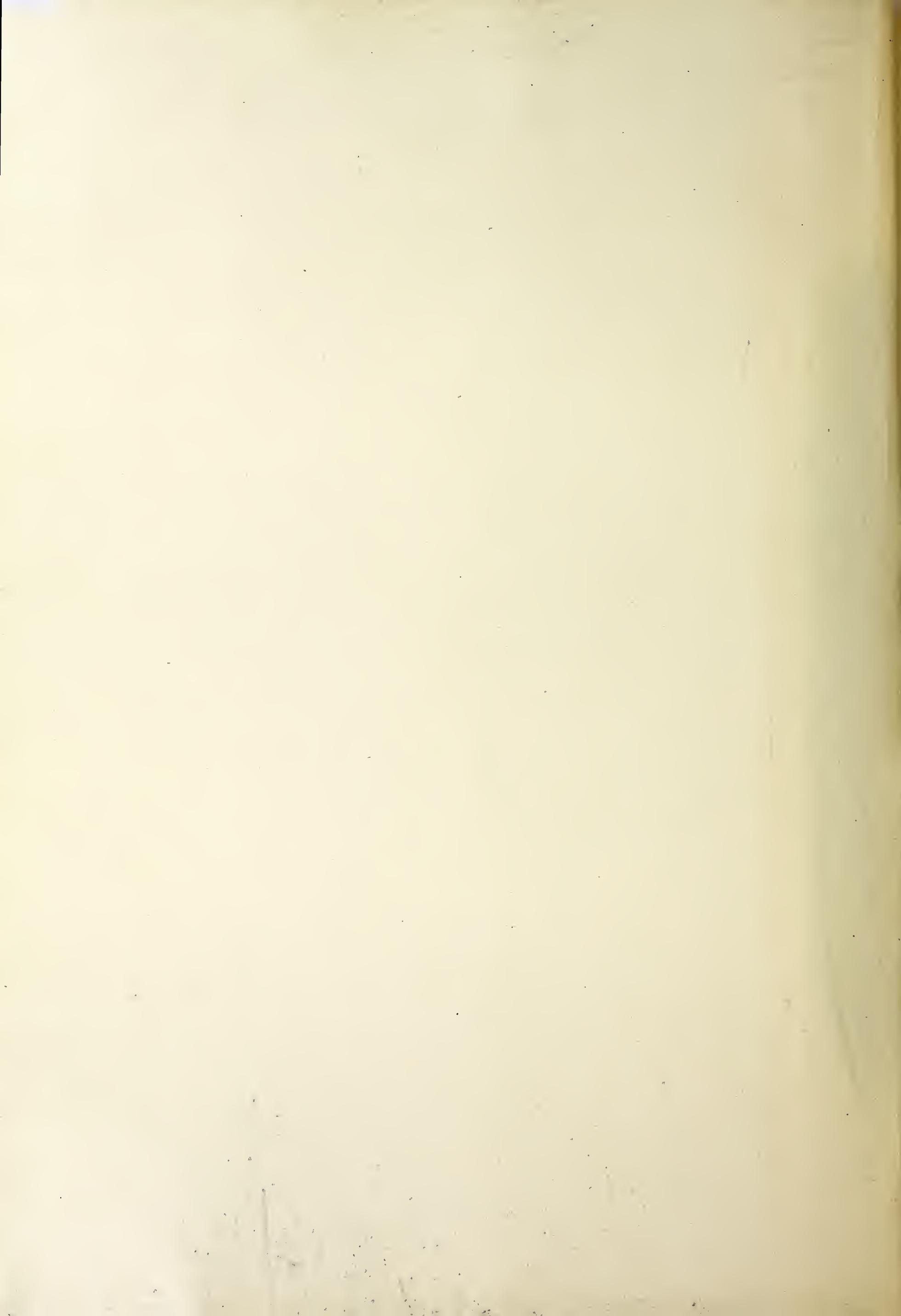
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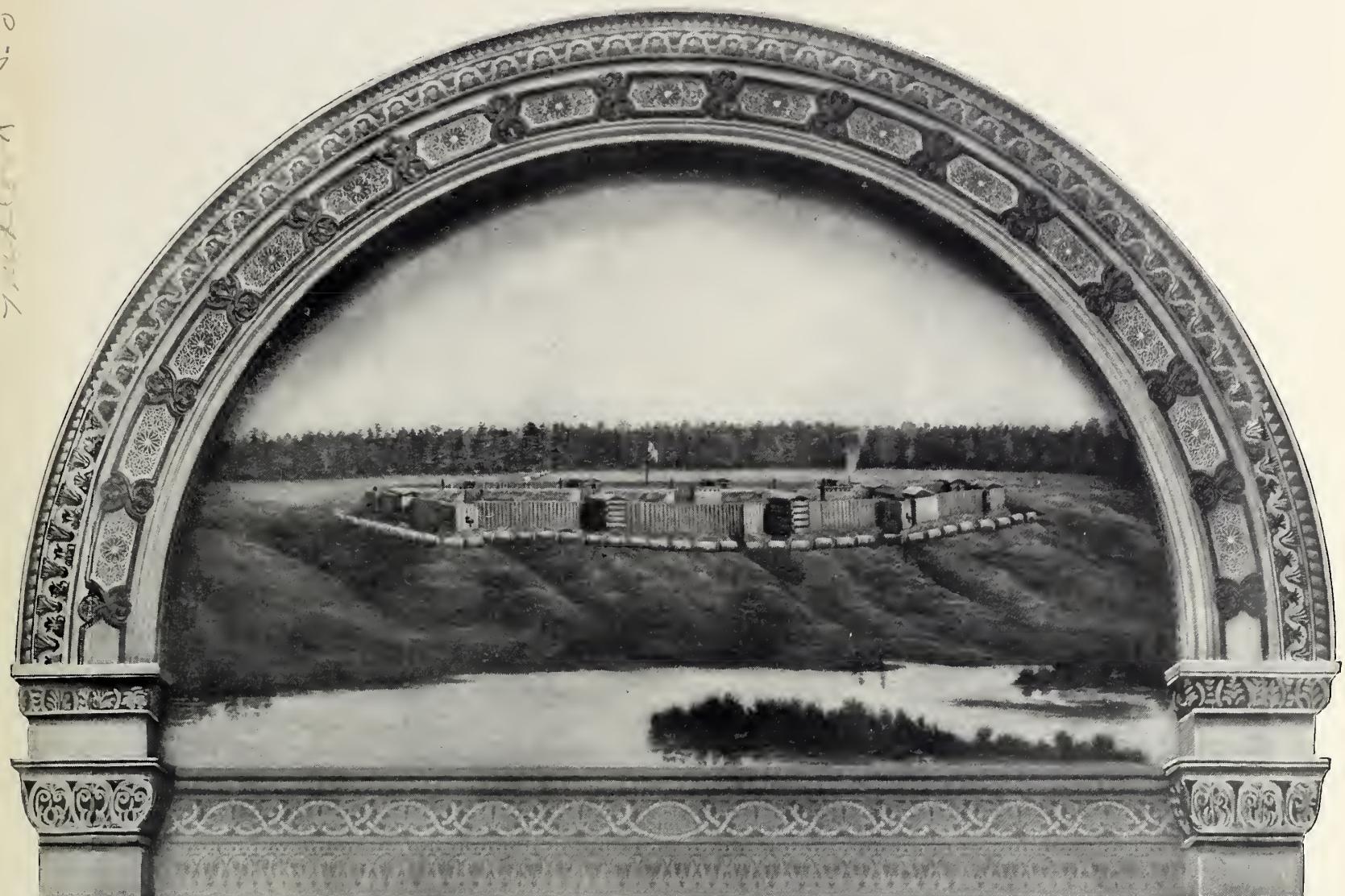
C. S. VAN TASSEL, Editor

BOWLING GREEN and TOLEDO,
OHIO.



SITE OF FORT STEPHENSON—NOW FREMONT.
Colonel Croghan's old Cannon, "Betsy," at foot of Monument.

The Maumee Valley—Historical



FORT MEIGS, ON THE MAUMEE RIVER, BUILT IN 1812.

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AT the close of the "French and Indian War," by the treaty of Paris in 1763, France ceded to England all her American possessions east of the Mississippi river. For more than a century preceding the treaty, these two nations had been struggling for supremacy in America. It was a long continued war of races stimulated by the desire to possess a land, the geography of which was almost unknown, and which was supposed to contain rich mines of precious metals hidden within its unexplored regions.

It is a matter of history that even before the landing of the Pilgrims in 1620, the great chain of lakes were visited by French explorers, missionaires and fur traders, and at some period during the first half of the seventeenth century delegates from all the Indian nations in the vicinity of the great lakes met the French in council at the Falls of St. Mary, where a treaty was made by which the Indians conceded to the French the right to occupy the place in the name of the King of France. An exploration of the lakes was undertaken by LaSalle, accompanied by Father Hennepin. At many points in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois they established posts for defense against our commerce with Indians. It is claimed that in 1680, LaSalle built a rude stockade at the foot of the Maumee Rapids, and that he passed that winter there. Even before LaSalle's explorations the Maumee was well known to the Catholic missionaires and French fur traders, who made it a point of exchange with the Indians of the adjacent fur-bearing region. Thus the French extended their explorations throughout the entire lake region and the Mississippi and claimed this extensive domain by the right of discovery.

They had a claim of military, trading and missionary posts from New Orleans to Quebec, along the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, along



OLD INDIAN ELM,
Maumee, Opposite Fort Meigs. [See Descriptive Note.]

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO.



LOOKING ACROSS MAUMEE RIVER FROM FORT MEIGS, WOOD COUNTY.

The embankments noticed in view are the walls of the old Fort.

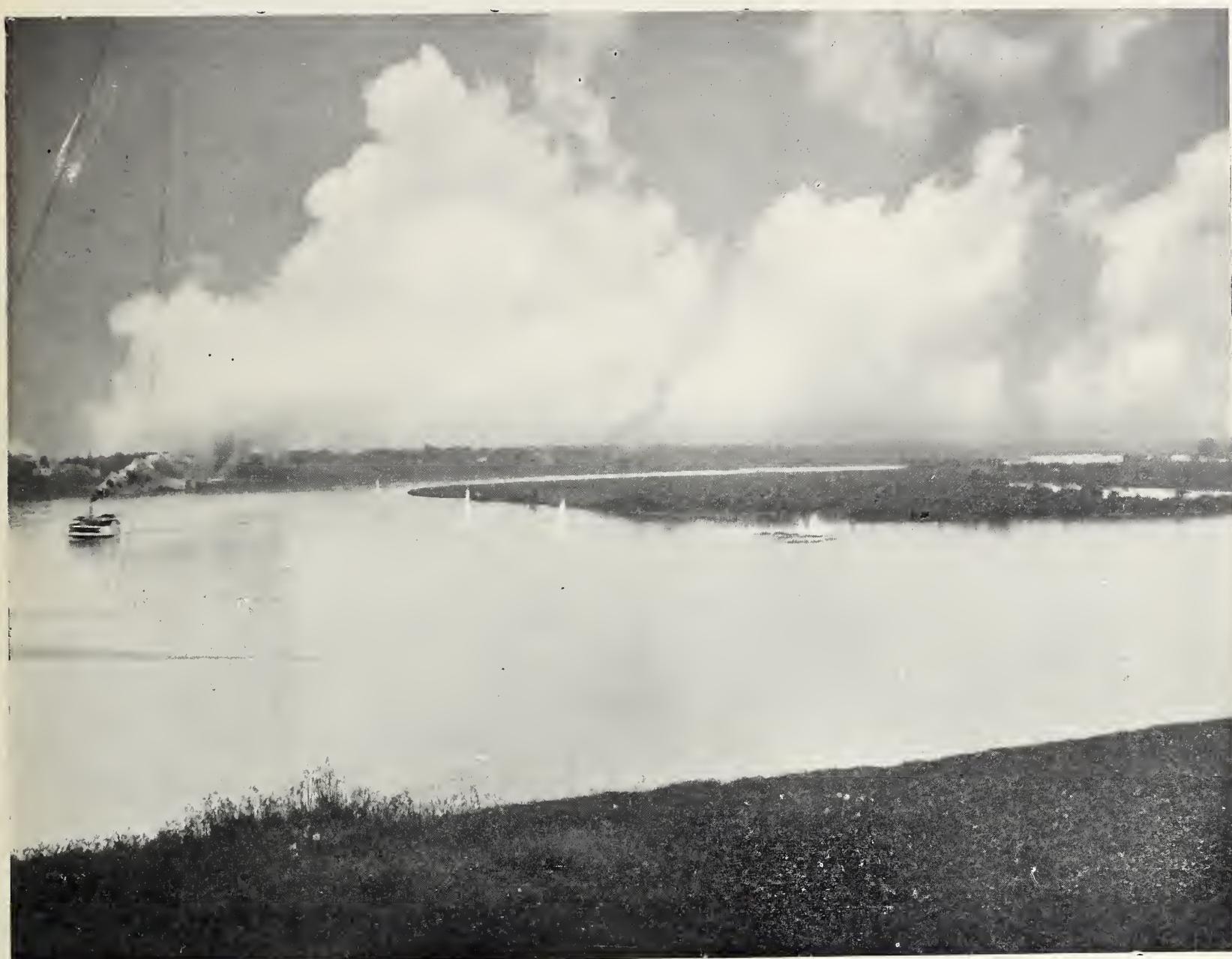
Lake Michigan and along the South shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario. They also had a line of posts along the Wabash and down the Maumee to Lake Erie. Then for years followed almost

constant turmoil, strife, warfare and massacre between English, French and Indians, which only closed by the treaty of peace in 1763, and by which treaty the beautiful Maumee passed forever from French dominion. During the French and Indian war the French established the Maumee and Western Reserve road as an important military route, fifty years before Anthony Wayne secured the right-of-way over the same route for a military road.

When the English took possession of the posts and fortifications, the Indians were exasperated and under Pontiac they commenced a war of extermination and savage butcheries, and merciless massacre followed for two years longer. Time passed and General Clarke entered upon an energetic and successful military expedition, securing and maintaining military possession of the extensive country between the Ohio River and the lakes chiefly within the present limits of Indiana and Illinois. Then by treaty in 1783, Great Britain ceded to the United States all the territory between the Alleghenies and the Mississippi river and south of the great lakes. But England violated her treaties and usurped jurisdiction for many years longer. The Indians disregarded the peace treaty between the United States and England, as they did that between



EAST SIDE OR REAR VIEW OF FORT MEIGS.



LOOKING UP THE HISTORIC MAUMEE RIVER FROM FORT MIAMI. PERRYSBURG ON LEFT.

France and England. In this they were encouraged by the English and continued their depredations on the white settlements.

Many attempts were made to conciliate the Indians, but all peace negotiations resulted in failure. Then followed the disastrous campaigns of General Harmar and Governor St. Clair, after which General Anthony Wayne took command of the Western army. He wintered his army at Fort Greenville, in 1793, leaving there in July, 1794, built Fort Defiance, proceeded down the Maumee with a force of 900 men, arriving at Roche De Boeuf, now Waterville, August 18, met and completely overwhelmed 2000 Indians pitted against him on the 20th, now known as the battle of Fallen Timber. For superb military skill and heroism that battle stands out conspicuous in Western annals and has but few equals in successful military contests. In this battle General Harrison, then a lieutenant, was one of General Wayne's aides-de-camp.

Notwithstanding the treaty of 1783, the war of the Revolution continued in the Maumee Valley and around the lakes. The duplicity of the English and their utter disregard of treaties was shown in the building of Fort Miami, a military work of great strength, and in retaining possession of Detroit as a military post. They also established a post at the mouth of Swan Creek where provisions were regularly supplied from British stores to the Indians.

The celebrated treaty of Greenville was negotiated in August, 1795, through the efforts of General Wayne, in a conference with the principal chiefs of twelve tribes of Indians. By this treaty the United States obtained sixteen distinct cessions of small tracts of land for military posts, with the necessary right-of-way through



FALLS NEAR ROCHE DE BOEUF, MAUMEE RIVER.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



VIEW FROM FORT MEIGS.

Fort Miami Across the Maumee River in the Distance.

the Indian country to reach these posts. Two of these counties. One of these was twelve miles square at the sions lie within the present limits of Lucas and Wood British Fort of Miami, and the other six miles square at the

mouth of the Maumee where it empties into the lake. The tract twelve miles square has ever since maintained an important part in boundary descriptions in Lucas and Wood counties. Until the organization of Lucas it was wholly within the limits of Wood county. The northeast corner of this tract is in the heart of the City of Toledo and its southeast corresponds with the southeast corner of Perrysburg township. The six miles tract cut into the northeast corner of Wood county, and the military right-of-way between these posts is now the Maumee and Western Reserve road.

Hay's treaty was ratified between the United States and England in 1796, by which the English surrendered to our government Fort Mackinaw, Fort Miami and the fortified town of Detroit. Immediately after the county of Wayne was established with Detroit as its seat of justice. This was



THE EXCHANGE HOTEL, PERRYSBURG.

Gen. Harrison, Chief Justice Waite, and Several Presidents and Other Notables Have Been Guests at This Hotel.



LOOKING UP THE MAUMEE RIVER
From Fort Miami. Fort Meigs in the distance at left.

the fifth county established in the Northwest territory. As then organized Wayne county included about twenty-six of the present counties in Northwestern Ohio, or about one-fourth of the State, the northern part of Indiana and all of the Southern Peninsula of Michigan.

When General Wayne took possession for the United States, of Detroit, Mackinaw and Fort Miami, he built Fort Industry on the left bank of the Maumee just below the mouth of Swan Creek, between Monroe and Jefferson streets, in Toledo, now. This fort was garrisoned about twelve years, and here an important treaty was made with the Indians in 1805, by which the Indians ceded practically all their lands in Ohio, with the exception of a square tract in Northwestern Ohio, which included the entire Maumee Valley, and which for many years was known as the Indian Territory, comprising about twenty counties as now organized.



LOOKING DOWN THE MAUMEE RIVER
From Maumee City. Perrysburg on the right.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO.



FORT MEIGS, ON THE MAUMEE RIVER.



EASTERN OR REAR VIEW IN OLD FORT MEIGS.
On Maumee River, near Perrysburg.

Soon after the treaty of Fort Industry, Louis Burdo, Peter Navarre and other Frenchmen removed from Detroit to the mouth of the Maumee where a number of French families had lived for many years. When Navarre came there the Ottawa Indians lived in a neat village nearly opposite Manhattan. This village, it is said, had been in existence since the days of Pontiac and marked the site of his encampment when he left Detroit in 1764. At this time there were eight thousand of the Ottawas living on the Maumee, among them the aged widow of Pontiac, who was held in great reverence by the tribe.

Mr. H. L. Hosmer, in his history of the Maumee country, says that in 1810, within a circumference of ten miles above the Rapids, the settlers were Major Amos Spafford, who was sent by

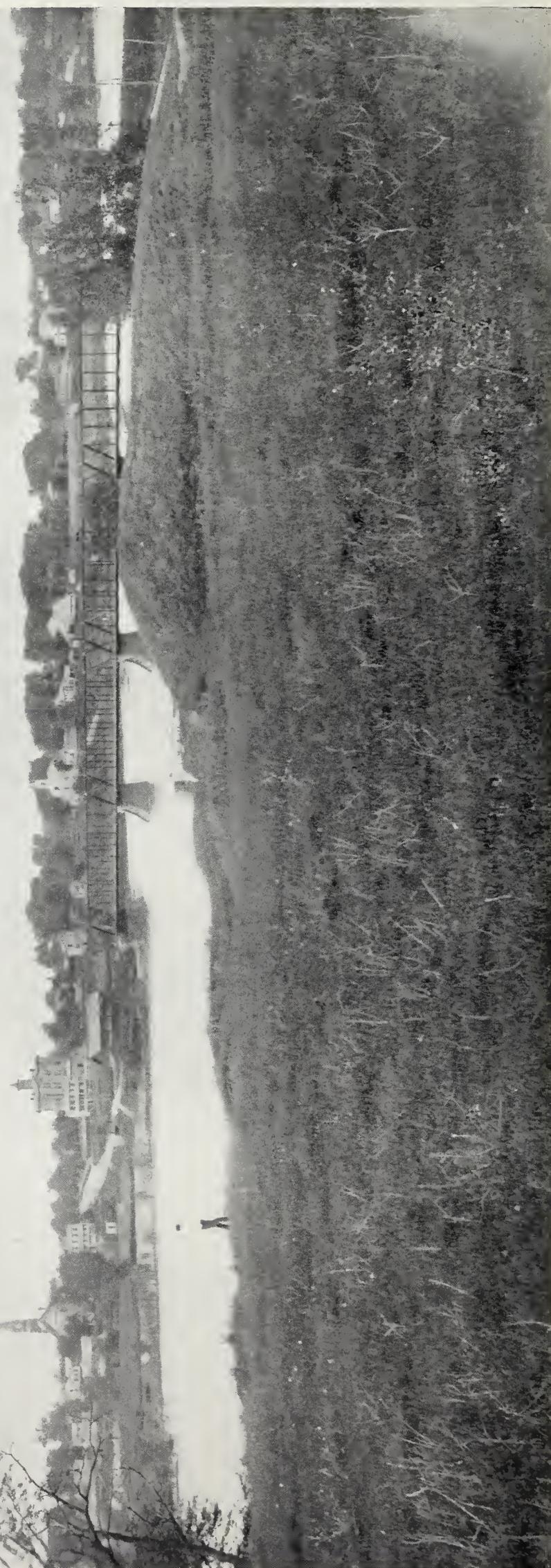
the government to act as collector of the post of Miami and postmaster, and about a dozen families. Two years later, in 1812, there were sixty-seven families living at the foot of the Rapids. Another settlement sprang up about the same time where the village of Monclova now stands. The first marriage on the Maumee, solemnized under the laws of the states took place at Perrysburg, February 20th, 1817. The bride was Miss Mary Jones, and the groom was Aurora Spafford, son of Amos Spafford. The officiating justice of the peace was Charles Gunn.

The entire Maumee Valley included in Wayne County, had no representation in the first Ohio Legislature, assembled at Chillicothe in 1803. That legislature, however, recognized it as being within its jurisdiction and caused that portion of Wayne county known as the Maumee Valley to be divided in two counties and these were known as Green and Franklin. Champaign County was organized in 1805, and embraced the southwestern part of the State with Urbana as the county seat.

The same year Congress enacted a law that "all that part of the Indian territory, which lies north of a line drawn east from the southerly bend of the extreme of Lake Michigan, until it shall intersect Lake Erie shall constitute a separate territory, and be called Michigan." If this line had been established, a strip of land about seven miles in width running from the western boundary of Ohio to Lake Erie, would have been included in the State of Michigan. Thirty years later, this strip of land became the bone of contention



LOOKING UP THE MAUMEE RIVER FROM MAUMEE CITY.



HISTORIC MAUMEE RIVER AND MAUMEE CITY, FROM FORT MEIGS.



FORT MIAMI

Built by the French in 1690, and rebuilt by the British in 1785, below Maumee City, on the west bank of the Maumee River.



REAR OF FORT MIAMI.

Built in 1680 by the French, and rebuilt by the British, on Maumee River.

between the state governments of Ohio and Michigan, and very nearly resulted in bloodshed. The conflict, however, which threatened to be so sanguinary was bloodless, and that which is known in history as the "Toledo War" approximated to the ridiculous.

Not until 1820 was the Indian title to this territory wholly extinguished, when fourteen counties were at once organized by the Legislature, the larger portion of the Maumee Valley having been included in Wood county.

The Maumee Valley is fully entitled to the appellation of "the bloody ground." This rich and lovely region, now so well adapted to the highest cultivation, containing all the elements, commercial and agricultural progress, proved to be a theater of a greater number of the bloody battles and the expenditure of more treasure, perhaps, than any similar extent of territory in the western world. It was in this region that Pontiac hurled his Indian hordes with savage fury. In this vicinity Mad Anthony

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO.



BUTTONWOOD ISLAND,
In Maumee River, near Perrysburg. Last Camping Grounds of Ottawa Indians in Ohio.

Wayne, with his fiery impetuosity dashed his intrepid little army against the savage class at Fallen Timber, and crushed them with a disaster, from which they never wholly recovered. The massacre at the River Raisin, the butchery of Colonel Dudley's command, the two sieges of Fort Meigs, and many other conflicts of lesser note show that this territory was opened up to civilization through a pathway of blood almost without parallel on the continent.

Look at the summary of the record from the seventeenth century, when the Iroquois made war upon the Miamis, and claimed to have conquered all the northwest country :

1669-70—French fort built at Swan Creek.

1680—Battle between Iroquois and Miamis near Ft. Wayne.

1687—Frequent conflicts between Iroquois and Miamis.

1697—French forts built at Ft. Wayne and at foot of the Rapids.

1747—Conspiracy of Nidulas, a Huron chief.
1748—King George's war, occupation of Fort Wayne.
1755-61—French and English war.
1761—English fort re-built at Miami.
1763—Conspiracy of Pontiac, famous Ottawa chief, capture of Fort Holmes.

1780—Attempt to capture post at Ft. Wayne, by LeBaum; defeated and entire command massacred.

1790—Harmar's campaign; capture of Indian village and defeat near Ft. Wayne.

1794—Capture of Indian towns on the Auglaize by General Wayne. Defeat of Indians at Battle of Fallen Timber.

1812-1815—Siege of Fort Wayne; two sieges of Fort Meigs; Dudley's defeat and massacre near Fort Miami; battle of River Raisin accompanied by a massacre; defense of Fort Stephenson, and Commodore Perry's victory on Lake Erie, were stirring events, all of which took place within thirty miles of the Maumee River.

Within the present limits of Lucas County, among the relics of "grimvisaged war," may be named the old British redoubt known as Fort Miami, opposite Perrys-



ROCHE DE BOEUF.
The Peace Grounds and Old Council Grounds of the Indians. Maumee River
Above Maumee.

burg; small earthwork built by General Wayne at Waterville, called Fort Deposit; Fort Industry, near Monroe street, in Toledo.

There was also a stockade in Swanton Township, on a branch of Swan Creek. The remains were plainly visible in 1835, but when or by whom it was built is not known.

There were evidently a number of earthworks built toward the mouth of Swan Creek at some period of time in the pre-historic past. One of this line of earthworks crossed the neck of land between Swan Creek and the river. It followed substantially the course now occupied by Clayton street, extended to the river. It comprised an embankment six or eight feet high and ten or twelve feet across the top on which quite large trees grew. A division embankment divided the inclosure into nearly two equal parts.

About the year 1807 or 1808, a French settlement was made on the banks of the Maumee, opposite Manhattan and among the settlers at that point was Peter

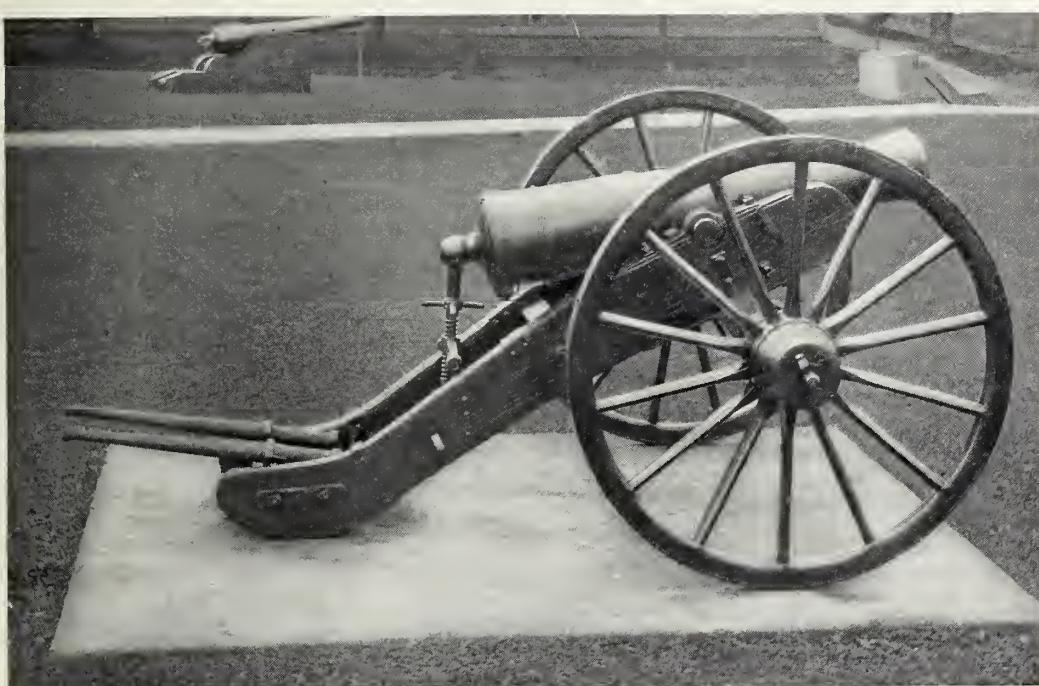


OLD WALCOTT MANSION, MAUMEE.
First Frame Residence This Side of Detroit.

Navarre, who was born in Detroit in 1786, and who was well-known by the citizens of Toledo and throughout the Maumee Valley. He was a grandson of Robert D. Navarre, who came to this country in 1745. Peter Navarre rendered excellent service to the Americans during his eventful pioneer life. He joined Hull's army and went to Detroit. Afterwards he returned to Raisin and enlisted in Colonel Anderson's regiment. He was included in Hull's surrender, but was liberated with his four brothers on parole. He served as a scout for General Harrison, at Fort Meigs. When the enemy first appeared opposite the fort, Navarre discovered the Indians crossing the river, which he reported to General Harrison, who at once sent him with three letters—one for Lower Sandusky, another to Upper Sandusky, and the third to Governor Meigs, at Urbana. He successfully



COMMODORE PERRY'S VICTORY AT PUT-IN-BAY.



"OLD BETSY."

The Cannon used by Col. Croghan in the defense of Fort Stephenson. This piece still stands in the park on the site of Fort Stephenson, at Fremont.

accomplished his mission, handing the letter to the Governor near the close of the fifth day. A reward of one thousand dollars was offered by General Proctor for his head, but the Indians claimed it was impossible to capture the wily scout. Navarre received a pension of eighty dollars per month from the Government up to the day of his death.

The news of the declaration of war with Great Britain first became known to the settlers of the Maumee Valley, through Peter Manor, and he says the first intelligence the people received of the inglorious surrender of General Hull came from a band of sixty or seventy Delaware Indians, on their march to fort Wayne in advance of the main army. Manor says that he and some of his neighbors were standing in front of Beaugrand's store in Maumee City, when the Indians came out of the woods, and

were about to fire, when Beaugrand waved a white handkerchief, at which they dropped their muskets. Shortly before one hundred British soldiers and as many Wyandots and

MAJOR GEORGE CROGHAN,
Hero of Fort Stephenson.

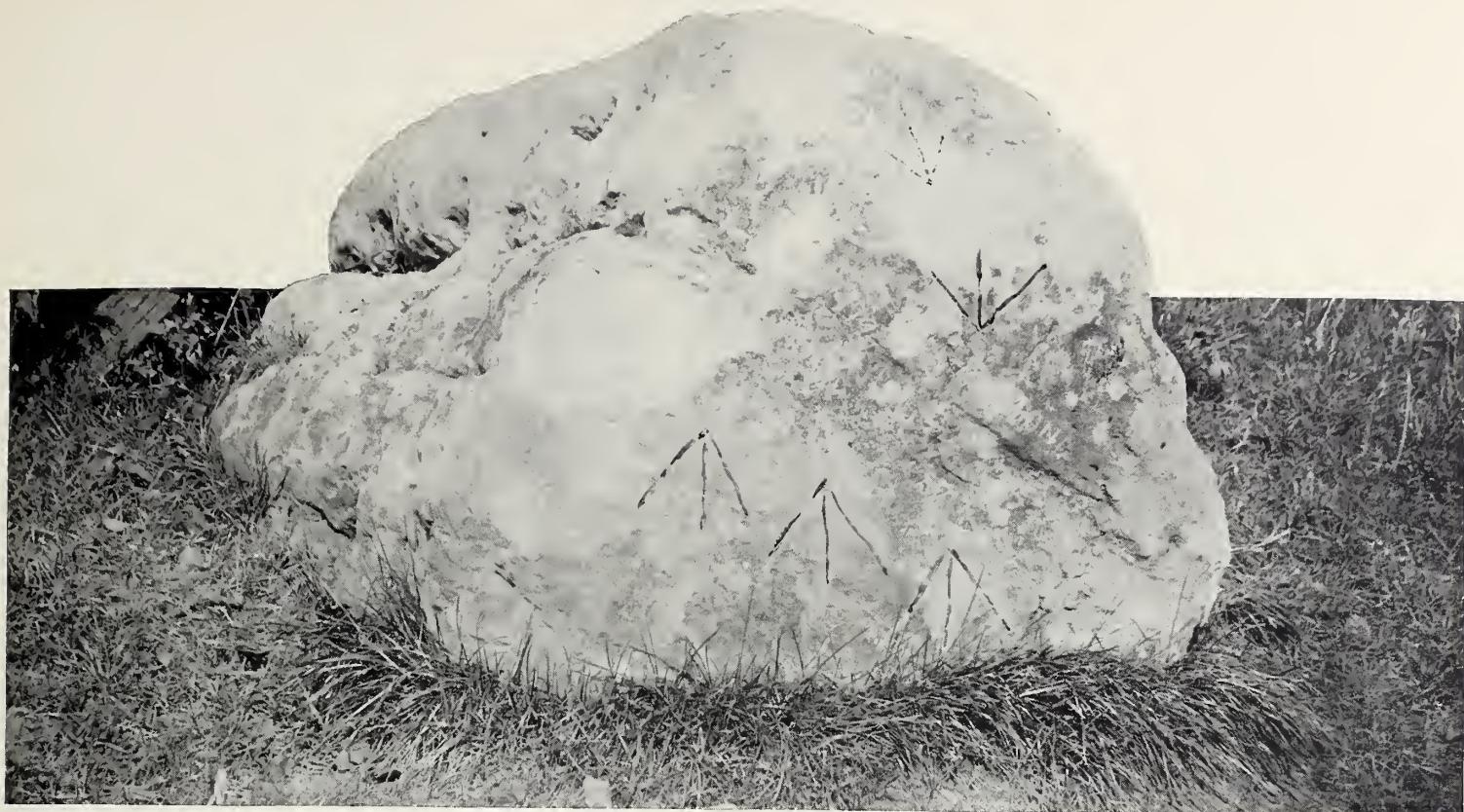
Potowattonies came up, when the British commander inquired for guides, and pressed Manor into service in spite of the fact that he feigned to be very much disabled by

OLD FLAGSTAFF ON SITE OF FORT MEIGS.
Erected in the Harrison campaign of 1840.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



MISSION ISLAND, IN MAUMEE RIVER, NEAR WATERVILLE.
This Island was Cultivated by Indians and Missionaries. [See Descriptive Note.]



TURKEY FOOT ROCK.



REV. JAMES B. FINLEY,
Missionary



REV. MONACUE,
Indian Missionary



REV. BETWEEN-THE-LOGS
Indian Missionary.



TECUMSEH.



FORT MIAMI,
On the Maumee River, from the rear.

lameness. He guided them as far as the head of the Rapids, when they dismissed him. He returned to Beaugrand's, but on his return met Colonel Elliot in command of the entire British force, who examined him thoroughly, and then permitted him to go. He started at once to join his family at the mouth of the river, but was captured when he reached the mouth of Swan Creek by a British officer in command of two vessels lying there. He was imprisoned until Beaugrand interposed in his behalf and secured his release.

War was declared against Great Britain June 18, 1812, and again the red savages with their British allies began to wage a merciless warfare in the Northwest. General Harrison was commander-in-chief of the army of

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO.



INDIAN ORCHARD, ON THE MAUMEE RIVER,
Opposite Mission Island, in Wood County. This Orchard was planted by Indians and Missionaries.

the Northwest. General Winchester, commanding a division under Harrison, arrived at the Rapids January 10, 1813, and reached with his command, the River Raisin on the 19th for the purpose of relieving the village of Frenchtown. On the 22nd his entire force was captured by the British and Indians. After the surrender, a merciless massacre followed by the Indians in which

several hundred Americans perished. This so weakened General Harrison's forces, that he destroyed the stockade at the Rapids and retreated to the Portage River, eighteen miles distant. Having received reinforcements by the 1st of February, increasing his army to seventeen hundred, he again moved to the Maumee Rapids and at once began the erection of Fort Meigs, which became so famous in the history of the Maumee Valley.

The famous siege began in the latter part of April and the combined forces of British Canadians and Indians, numbering nearly three times that of Harrison's little band, with batteries planted on both sides of the river, kept almost an incessant attack until the 9th day of May, when General Proctor became discouraged and retreated to Fort Malden. In this siege the losses of the British were heavy, but unknown. In Dudley's defeat the losses of the Americans were about eight hundred men. The losses on the south bank were 81 killed and 181 wounded during the siege. Thus closed this campaign in triumph and honor to the American arms.

After the siege the fort was



OLD SHAWNEE COUNCIL HOUSE,
Four miles southwest of Lima. Built by the Indians in 1831



DUCK SHOOTING ON SANDUSKY BAY



THE OLD INDIAN SPRING, UPPER SANDUSKY.

Site of Fort Ferree. Charles Dickens sat under this tree when he visited Upper Sandusky in 1842.

placed in good condition and General Green Clay left in command with a few hundred men, while Harrison started for the interior of the state to organize additional troops. During his absence Proctor and Tecumseh made several attempts to capture the fort, but without success, and on the 28th day of July they embarked their stores and started for Canada.

The repulse of Proctor at Fort Stephenson on the 1st of August, and Commodore Perry's magnificent victory on Lake Erie, September 10th, caused Proctor to destroy his works at Fort Malden, and with Tecumseh he retreated into the Canadian interior. Harrison then pursued him to the river Thames and on the 5th day of October gave him battle, utterly defeating the British and Indians. This practically ended the war in the Northwest. With the close of the war with Great Britain in 1814, and the declaration of peace in 1815, quiet was restored to



PERRY'S WILLOW, PUT-IN-BAY.
Burial Place of Some of Commodore Perry's Sailors.

436. PEEBLES WILLOW, PUT-IN-BAY. - DENTON PHOTOGRAPHIC CO.

the Maumee Valley and the possession of the country was definitely secured.

After the declaration of peace and after the return of the soldiers to their homes, they indulged in the most glowing descriptions of the beauties and fertility of the Maumee Valley. Accounts of the great forests of giant timber, of a soil yielding the richest agricultural products in abundance, game in the unbroken forests of every description while the lakes and rivers abounded in fish, all proved so many alluring attractions to the emigrant seeking a home. Hence year after year immigration increased until the Maumee became pretty thickly lined with settlers.

As time went on many embryo cities thickly studded the banks of the Maumee for a score of miles from its mouth. Each of these believed it was just the place for a great metropolis.



INDIAN MILL AND DAM, WYANDOT COUNTY.
[See Descriptive Note]



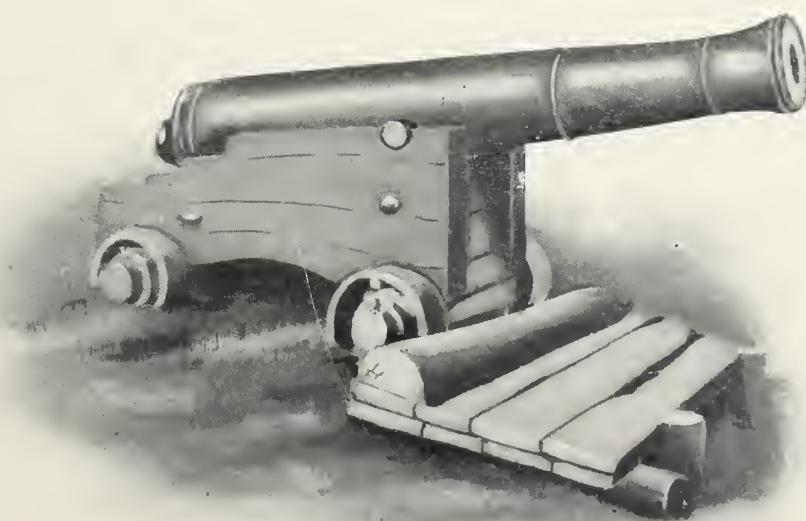
WYANDOT MISSION CHURCH.
Built 1827. Rebuilt 1889.

Speculation ran riot. Lots were held and sold at fabulous prices. Paper cities, with imaginary metropolitan facilities sprang up like mushrooms. Among them were Maumee City, Miami, Perrysburg, Marengo, East Marengo, Austerlitz, Port Lawrence, Vistula, Manhattan, Oregon, Lucas City and Havre. When the bubble burst town lots were offered in open market at three and six cents apiece without finding buyers.

Vistula, laid out by Major Stickney, and Port Lawrence laid out at foot of Swan Creek by some of General Harrison's officers, united their fortunes in 1833, and soon afterward took the name of Toledo. At this time the country was flooded with speculators, fortune hunters from Fort Wayne to the Maumee Bay, but the famous Black Swamp embracing eighteen counties and parts of counties, and also impenetrable in its fastnesses served to turn the tide of immigration to Michigan, Indiana and Illinois. Such was the character of the Black Swamp at this



MILL STONE.
From Old Indian Mill, Upper Sandusky.



CANNON TAKEN FROM PERRY'S FLAG SHIP, "LAWRENCE."

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



AN OUTING UPON THE LAKE IN HOVER'S PARK, NEAR LIMA, ALLEN COUNTY.

time, that Wood County authorities seriously entertained the proposition to abandon their county organization and give up the struggle.

Lucas County was formed June 11, 1835, and named in honor of the Governor of Ohio, Hon. Robert Lucas. Its area is

430 square miles, with fourteen townships at the present time.

The famous "Toledo War" occupied the interest and attention of Michigan and Ohio during the year 1835, owing to the determination of Governor Lucas to re-mark and establish the Harris line making the boundary between this state and Michigan.

The only bloodshed during the "war" was the wounding of Sheriff Wood, of Monroe County, with a knife by Two Stickney, who escaped arrest by speeding to Columbus. The ludicrous scenes enacted during this famous imbroglio, the proclamations promulgated and the many incidents, romantic, interesting, amusing and otherwise would fill a volume.

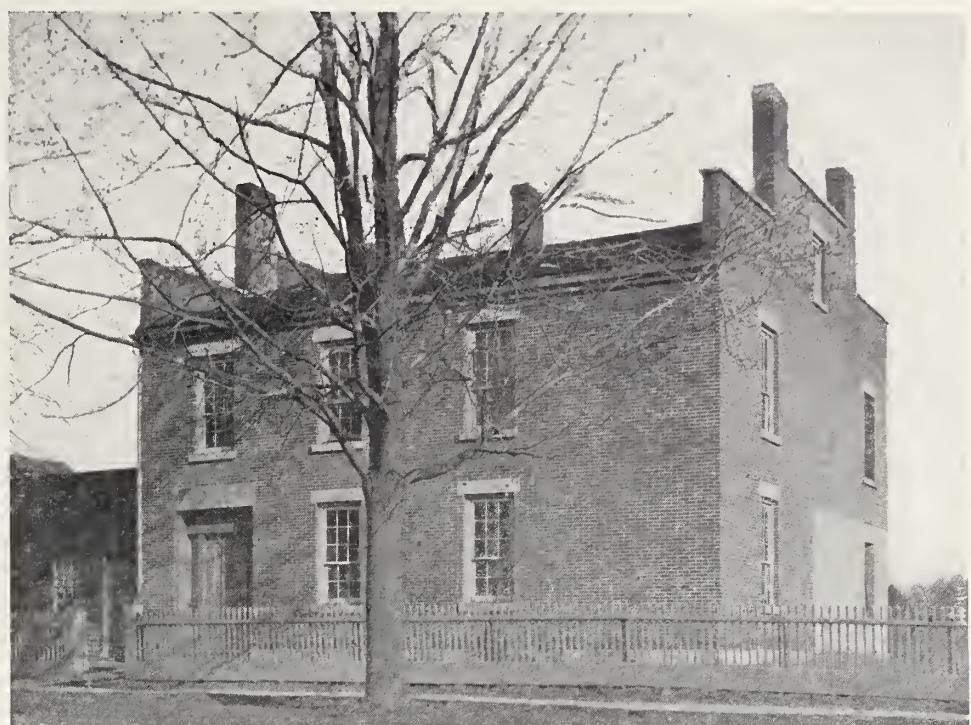
Up to the completion of the Miami and Erie canal Toledo was little more than a dead town. It was impoverished, depressed and had acquired a widespread notoriety as a malaria-breeding, disease-destroying, infected cess-pool most scrupulously avoided by those seeking homes in the West.

It was not until after the war of the Rebellion, that the miasmatic city of early days began to take on the signs of progress. Out

THE BLANCHARD RIVER,
Near Findlay, Hancock County

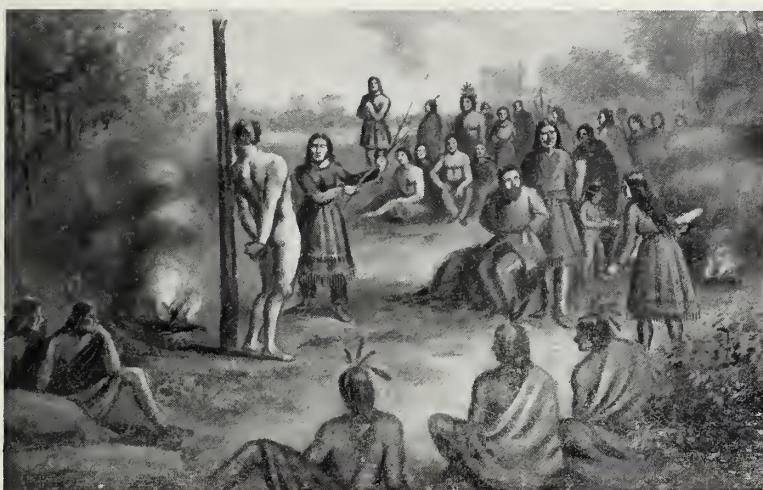
from the depths of humiliation, out from the struggle and strife, out from the turmoil and blood, out from pioneer gloom and despair she stands to-day the third city in the state—the Lady of the Lakes—one of the leading railroad centers of the continent. The great Black Swamp, as if under the magic wand of a sorcerer, has become the fruitful garden spot of the Buckeye State. Toledo is the outlet and emporium of this great wealth of forest, field and derrick. Its magnificent harbor with twenty-five miles of frontage is surpassed by no city on the inland seas. Its lake traffic reaches into the millions. Its propellers and sail craft connect with every lake port from Duluth to Buffalo. Its excursion steamers and summer resorts are unrivaled by any city in the country.

THE SIEGE OF FORT MEIGS.—The construction of Fort Meigs by General Wm. Henry Harrison in spring 1813, and its siege by the British general, Proctor, and the renowned chief Tecumseh in May of that year, was one of the important incidents in the war of 1812. But few of those who now look at the ruins of Fort Meigs, slumbering upon the high, grassy plateau opposite the village of Maumee, can realize the fearful struggle that took place amid those peaceful surroundings from May first to May fifth, 1813. The incessant roar of heavy artillery, the ceaseless rattle of musketry, the shock of



OLD JAIL AT PERRYSBURG.

beginning to reap some of the fruits of peace and prosperity. Many believed that we had nothing to gain and much to lose by a war with England, as she had great armies in the field and



BURNING OF COL. CRAWFORD
By Indians in 1782, in Wyandot County.

arms in the onset of contending soldiers, British and American, mingled with the piercing yells of Tecumseh's infuriated savages, for five days and nights, during the frightful siege, broke the quiet of the valley, now dotted with its peaceful homes and prosperous villages. To understand aright the historic importance of Fort Meigs' struggle in the war of 1812 it will be necessary to review the events leading up to the construction of that important stronghold, recount the main events of its successful resistance to armed invasion, and then point out the beneficent result that ensued from the valorous defense by Harrison and his beleaguered heroes.

The War of 1812, or "Madison's War," as it was called by unfriendly critics of the administration, was declared June eighteenth, 1812. There was great opposition to the war in the sea-board states, especially among the bankers, merchants and manufacturers. A war with England was greatly dreaded, as our weak country was then just



BATTLE ISLAND FARM, WYANDOT COUNTY,
Where Col. Crawford was defeated by British and Indians.



SITE OF FORT FINDLAY.
Built at the Crossing of Blanchard River on Hull's Trail to Detroit, in the war of 1812, on Main Street, Findlay.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



SIMON Girty's ISLAND, IN MAUMEE RIVER
At Napoleon. Once the Rendezvous of the Noted Outlaw. [See Descriptive Note.]

practically ruled the seas. But the provocation to war was great, and the national pride and indignation of the Americans was roused to the highest pitch by the insolent aggressions of England toward our commerce and our sailors. England's "Orders in Council" in reprisal for Napoleon's Berlin and Milan decrees, excluded our merchant ships from almost every port of the world, unless the permission of England to trade was first obtained. In defiance of England's paper blockade of the world our ships went forth to trade with distant nations. Hundreds of them were captured, their contents confiscated and the vessels carried as prizes into English ports. But this was not all. The United States recognized the right of an alien to be "naturalized" and become a citizen of this country, but England held to the doctrine, "once an Englishman always an Englishman." In consequence of this our ships were insolently hailed and boarded by the war sloops and frigates of England and six thousand



MARGARET SOLOMON.
Last Wyandot Indian in Ohio.

American sailors in all were dragged from our decks and impressed into the British service. In addition to these insults and aggressions it was well known to the United States that English agents in the Northwest were secretly aiding and encouraging the wild Indian tribes of the Wabash and Lake Superior regions to commit savage depredations upon our frontier settlements. About this time an Indian chieftain of the Shawanese tribe, Tecumseh by name, like King Philip and Pontiac before him, conceived the idea of rallying all the Indian tribes together and driving the white men out of the country.

Tecumseh was a noble and majestic presence, was possessed of a lofty and magnanimous character and was endowed with a gift of irresistible eloquence. Tecumseh had a brother called



THE OLD INDIAN JAIL.
At Upper Sandusky. [See Descriptive Note.]



BIG SYCAMORE AT UPPER SANDUSKY
Which perhaps, while standing was biggest Sycamore in Ohio.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



FORT McARTHUR BURYING GROUND

Near Kenton, Hardin County. The Boulders seen upon the ground are the headstones of the soldiers' graves.

the Prophet, who claimed to be able to foretell future events and secure victories and effect marvelous cures by his charms and incantations. Harrison, then governor of the Indiana Territory, was active in securing Indian lands by purchase and treaty for supplying the oncoming tide of white men who pressed hard upon the Indian boundary lines. Tecumseh and the Prophet sent their emissaries abroad and organized a great confederacy which refused to cede the title to the lands of the Wabash Valley, as had been agreed upon by separate tribes. They even came down into the valley and built a town where Tippecanoe Creek flows into the Wabash. Harrison, alarmed at these signs of resistance, called the plotters to account. The Prophet, all of whose machinations were based upon fraud and deception, denied everything. But Tecumseh marched proudly down to Vincennes with four hundred braves behind him and in the council, in a speech

of great eloquence and power set forth the burning wrongs of his people and asked for justice and redress.

When Tecumseh had finished, an officer of the governor pointed to a vacant chair and said, "Your father asks you to take a seat by his side." Tecumseh drew his mantle around him and proudly exclaimed, "My father! The sun is my father, and the earth my mother, in her bosom I will repose." He then calmly seated himself upon the bare ground.

But the plotting and the intriguing among the hostile Indians continued, Tecumseh traveling everywhere and inciting a spirit of war and defiance. Harrison became alarmed at the formidable preparation of the savages and marched from Vincennes with nine hundred soldiers to disperse the hostile camp at Prophet's town on the Wabash at Tippecanoe. The chiefs came out to



SITE OF FORT McARTHUR

Near Kenton, Hardin County. Was built in 1812 on the road that ran to Detroit.



SITE OF OLENTANGY BATTLE FIELD, CRAWFORD COUNTY.

meet him and with professions of friendship promised on the next day to grant all that he desired. Harrison was deceived by this reception and encamped upon the spot which the chiefs pointed out. In the dark hours of the early morning the treacherous Prophet and his inflamed followers crept silently upon the sleeping soldiers of Harrison, shot the sentinels with arrows and with frightful yells burst into the circle of the camp. At the first fire the well trained soldiers rolled from their blankets and tents and with fixed bayonets rushed upon their red foes. For two hours a bloody struggle ensued, but the valor and discipline of the whites prevailed. The Indians were scattered and their town was burned. Tecumseh was not present at the battle of Tippecanoe but the Prophet, at a safe distance upon a wooded height, inspired his

braves by wild hallooings and weird incantations. His pretenses were so discredited by the result of the battle that he was driven out of the country and sank into obscurity. But not so with Tecumseh. His heart was filled with rage and hatred against Harrison and the American soldiers. He knew that war was just trembling in the balance between England and the United States. He immediately repaired to Malden at the mouth of the Detroit River and proffered the aid of himself and his confederacy against the United States. This famous battle of Tippecanoe, fought in the dark, November seventh, 1811, was really the first blow struck in the war which was openly declared in the following June. The Indians now fondly hoped that the English would deliver their country from the grasp of the Americans. And the English on their part were profuse in their promises of speedy deliverance and in their gifts of arms and supplies of all kinds. The war in the West was indeed but another struggle for the possession of the lands between the Alleghanies and the Mississippi. And had England won in the contest, not Tecumseh and his confederacy would have had the hunting grounds of their forefathers restored, but Canada would have been enlarged by the



SITE OF FORT GREENVILLE.

In Darke County. Built in 1793. This residence of A. N. Wilson's is located upon the center of where the old Fort stood.

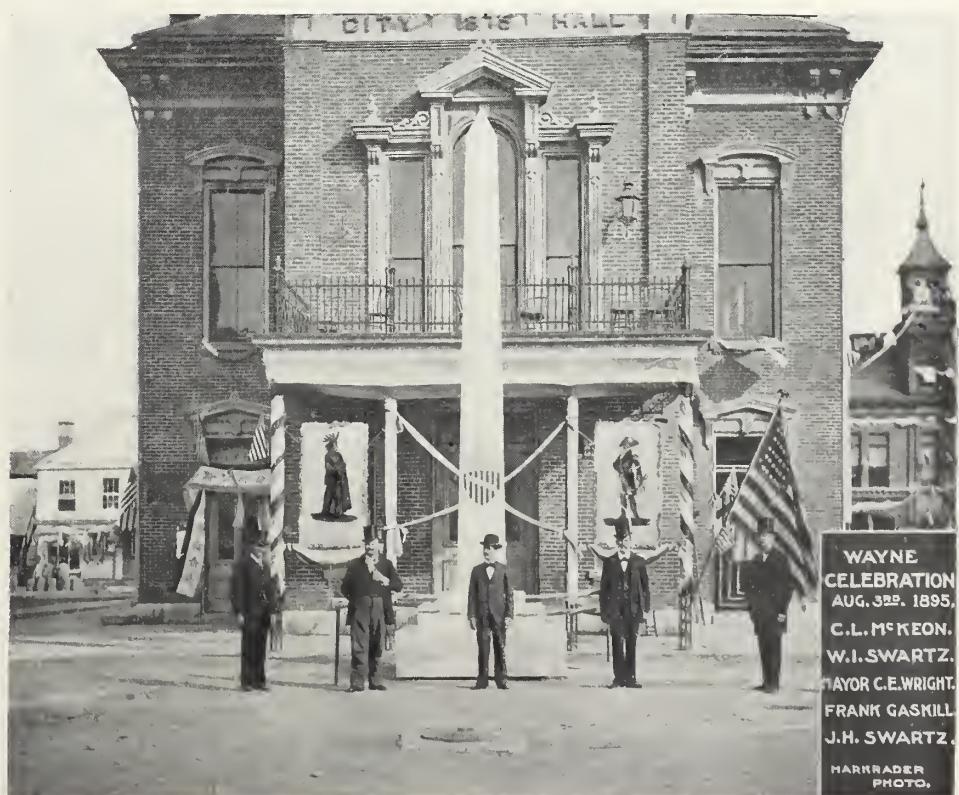


SITE OF FORT RECOVERY, MERCER COUNTY.

addition of the Old Northwest to her own domain. It was far easier for the United States to declare war than to prosecute it to a successful issue. Our country was without an army and without a navy, and had but scanty means for creating either. England had armies of experienced veterans and a vast navy. Ohio had less than 250,000 inhabitants, and her line of civilized settlements did not extend more than fifty miles north of the Ohio River. Whatever part Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky should play in the contest must be done by conveying troops and munitions of war over a road two hundred miles long through the wilderness.

As the campaign was planned against Canada these supplies for the raw recruits of the West had to be transported northward over roads cut toward Lake Erie and Detroit through the swamps and tangled morasses of the unbroken forest. The line of contests between the two nations was over five hundred miles long, extending from Lake Champlain to Detroit. The Americans held three important points of vantage, Plattsburg, Niagara and Detroit. The British held three on the Canada side of the

line, Kingston, Toronto and Malden. At the latter place (now Amherstberg) the British had a fort, a dockyard and a fleet of war vessels, thus controlling Lake Erie. The Americans soon had three armies in the field eager to invade and capture Canada. One under Hull, then governor of Michigan Territory, with two thousand men was to cross the river at Detroit, take Malden and march eastward through Canada. Another army under Van Rensselaer was to cross the Niagara River, capture Queenstown, effect a junction with Hull and then capture Toronto and march eastward on Montreal. The third army under Dearborn at Plattsburg was to cross the St. Lawrence, join Hull and Van Rensselaer before Montreal and capture that city. The combined forces were then to march on Quebec, take that city and thus complete the invasion and conquest of Canada. This fine program was not carried out. It would have taken the combined



CITY HALL, GREENVILLE.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



THE MAUMEE RIVER AT GRAND RAPIDS, WOOD COUNTY.
The Village on the right and the old dam in the distance looking up.

artillerymen stood at their guns with lighted matches, when to the dismay and shame of all, the stars and stripes was lowered from the flag staff of the fort and the white flag of surrender was run up. Hull had weakened at the last moment and had given up the whole of Michigan Territory, and also Detroit with all its troops, guns and stores, and



MONUMENT ON SITE OF FORT BALL, TIFFIN.

genius of a Napoleon and a Caesar to have executed such a plan of battle over such immense distances.

The plain truth is the Americans had in the field at this time only raw, ill-disciplined troops and absolutely no generals with abilities which fitted them to command such expeditions. Hull, according to orders, crossed the Detroit River to Sandwich and there in vacillating indecision dawdled away the time for several weeks without advancing upon Malden only a few miles away. When he heard that Mackinac Island had fallen into British hands he began to quake in his boots, and thought of retreating. Soon he received news that an Ohio convoy destined for Detroit had been attacked and was in danger of capture. This settled it. Hull quickly retreated across the river to Detroit with all his forces with no thought but for protecting his own line of communication, for he had reached Detroit originally from Urbana by a road which he had cut through the wilderness by way of Kenton and Findlay. Brock, the brave and skillful British general commanding at Malden, immediately followed Hull across the river and demanded the surrender of Detroit with threats of a massacre by his Indian allies if Hull did not comply. To his credit be it said, Hull refused, and the Americans prepared for battle. Brock marched up to within five hundred yards. The Americans were ready and eager for the fray and the



RIVER SCENE
Near Bucyrus, Crawford County

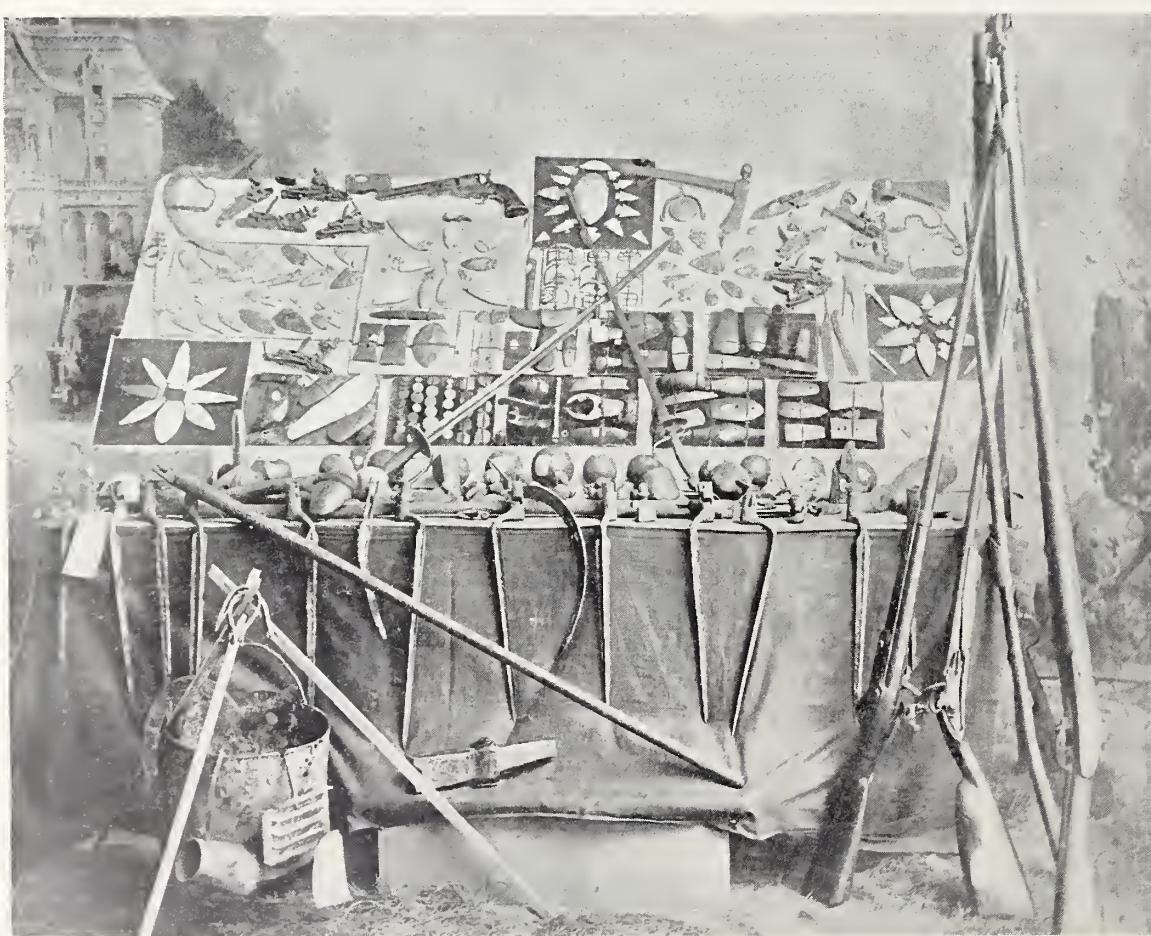
even surrendered detachments of troops twenty-five miles distant. The officers and soldiers of Hull were overwhelmed with rage and humiliation at this cowardly surrender. The officers broke their swords across their knees and tore the epaulets from their uniforms. Poor old Hull, it is said, had done good service in



SPRING AT OLD FORT, UPPER SANDUSKY, WYANDOT COUNTY.



OLD LUCAS COUNTY COURT HOUSE, MAUMEE,
Near Site of Dudley Massacre.



RELICS
Found at and near Fort Recovery, Mercer County.

the Revolutionary War, but he had reached his dotage and his nerve had departed, and moreover he had a daughter in Detroit whom he dearly loved and on whose account he dreaded an Indian massacre.

Hull's troops had also been greatly diminished in numbers, the government had been negligent in reinforcing him and he was confronted by about one thousand British soldiers and fifteen hundred bloodthirsty Indians. These facts may have helped to lead him into this shameful and cowardly capitulation. Hull was afterwards court-martialed and tried on three charges of treason, cowardice and conduct unbecoming an officer. He was convicted on the latter two charges and was sentenced to be shot, but was subsequently pardoned on account of former services.

Another disaster in the West accompanied Hull's surrender. When he heard Mackinac had fallen he at once sent Winnimac, a friendly chief, to Chicago and advised Captain Heald, commanding Fort Dearborn,



CANAL ALONG MAUMEE RIVER AT GRAND RAPIDS, WOOD COUNTY.

to evacuate the fort with his garrison and go to Fort Wayne. Heald heeded this bad advice. He abandoned the fort with his garrison of about sixty soldiers, together with a number of women and children. He had no sooner left the precincts of the fort than his little company was attacked by a vast horde of treacherous Pottawatomies who had pretended to be friends but who had been inflamed by the speeches and warlike messages of Tecumseh. The little band of whites resolved to sell their lives as dearly as possible and defended themselves with the utmost bravery, even the women fighting valiantly beside their husbands. During the fray one savage fiend climbed into a baggage wagon and tomahawked twelve little children who had been placed there for safety. In this unequal contest William Wells, the famous spy who had served Wayne so well, lost his life. Nearly all of the little Chicago garrison were thus massacred in the most atrocious manner. In the meantime Van Rensselaer's army at Niagara had failed to take Queenstown and a part of it under Winfield Scott, after a brave resistance, had been captured. Dearborn's army

on Lake Champlain passed the summer in idleness and indecision and accomplished nothing.

Thus closed with failure and disaster the campaign of the year 1812.



FIRST LUCAS COUNTY COURT HOUSE, AT TOLEDO.

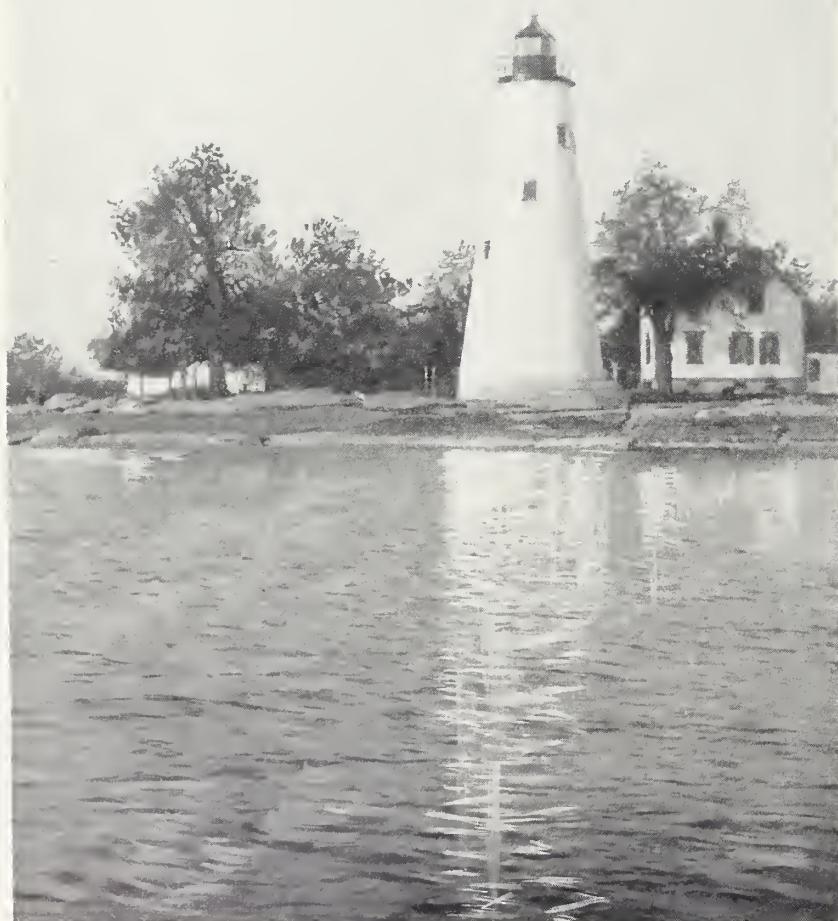


VIEW OF LAKE SHORE AT LAKE SIDE, OTTAWA COUNTY.

January, 1813, opened with still another tragedy of the direst character. General Winchester had been appointed to the chief command of the army of the West after the surrender of Hull; but this appointment raised a storm of opposition among the troops who desired General Harrison to be in supreme command. Harrison was extremely popular among the soldiers.

His great energy and his remarkable military abilities were well known, and moreover, he was the hero of Tippecanoe. Accordingly, in obedience to the popular demand, Harrison, in September of 1812, was appointed to the chief command of the army of the West. But Winchester still continued to retain an important command, and in January of 1813 he marched his troops from

Fort Wayne and Defiance down the north bank of the Maumee over Wayne's old route, to the foot of the Rapids in the hope that he might be able to do something to repair the disaster of Hull's surrender. On his arriving at the Rapids, messengers from Frenchtown (now Monroe) informed him that a force of British and Indians were encamped at Frenchtown and were causing the inhabitants great loss and annoyance. Winchester at once set out for Frenchtown and on January nineteenth attacked and completely routed the enemy at that place. Had he then returned to the Rapids he would have escaped the terrible disaster which followed. The full British force was at Malden only eighteen miles away. A force of fifteen hundred British and Indians immediately marched against Winchester



MARBLEHEAD LIGHT HOUSE ON LAKE ERIE.



RIVER SCENE NEAR BUCYRUS, CRAWFORD COUNTY.



STONE'S COVE, PUT-IN-BAY, FROM HOTEL VICTORY.

and attacked him early on the morning of the twenty-second. The battle was fierce and stubborn. The Americans had no entrenchments or protection of any kind and were overwhelmed by superior numbers. Those who were still alive, after a bloody resistance, were compelled to surrender. Then followed such a scene of carnage as has seldom been witnessed. Proctor, the British commander, stood calmly by while his Indian allies mutilated the dead and inflicted the most awful tortures upon the wounded. Even those who had surrendered upon condition that their lives should be spared were attacked by these savages with knife and tomahawk. The awful deeds that followed the surrender have covered the name of Proctor with infamy and have made "The Massacre of the Raisin" a direful event in history. When the appalling news of the massacre reached the settlements the people of Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Ohio girded them-

selves for revenge. Ten thousand troops were raised for Harrison and it was determined to wipe out the disgrace of Hull's surrender and avenge the awful death of comrades and friends so pitilessly and treacherously butchered on the Raisin. "Remember the Raisin," was heard in every camp and issued from between the set teeth of soldiers who in long lines began converging toward the Rapids of the Maumee.

It was under such circumstances as these, with two armies swept away and the country plunged in gloom, that General

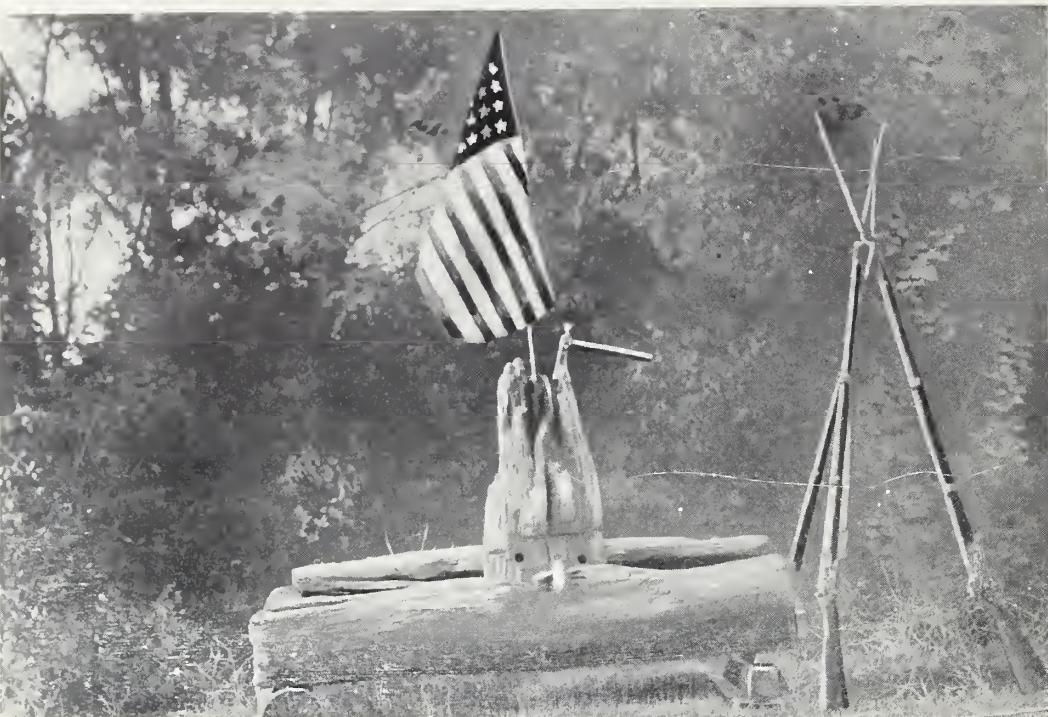


OLD ELM AT FIVE POINTS ROAD, PUTNAM COUNTY.



A PIONEER COTTAGE,

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



OLD FLAGSTAFF FROM FORT RECOVERY.

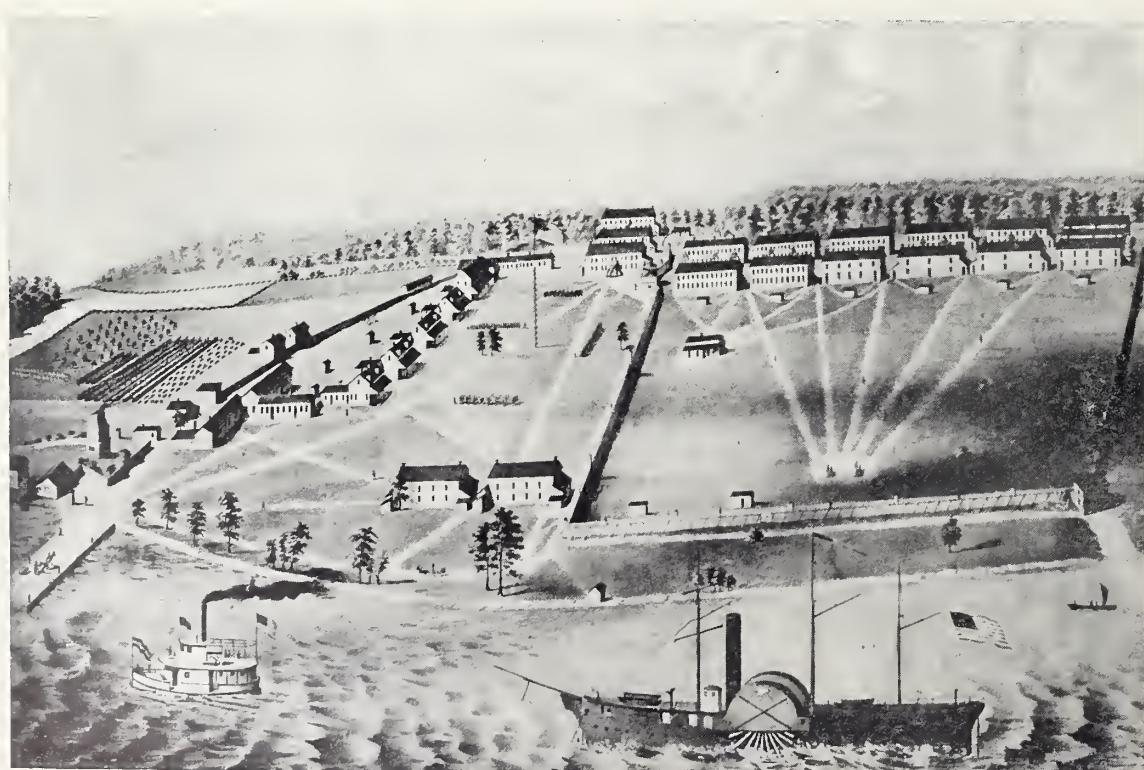
Harrison began with redoubled energy to get together a third army. He at first thought of withdrawing all troops from Northwestern Ohio and retreating toward the interior of the state. But upon second thought he resolved to build a strong fortress upon the southern bank of the Maumee at the foot of the Rapids which should be a grand depot of supplies and a base of operations against Detroit and Canada. Early in February of 1813, Harrison, with Captains Wood and Gratiot of the engineer corps, selected the high plateau of the Maumee's southern bank lying just opposite the present village of Maumee. As the British commanded Lake Erie this was a strategic point of great value and lay directly on the road to

Canada. Below it armies and heavy guns could not well be conveyed across the impassable marshes and estuaries of the bay. It was a most favorable position for either attack or defense, for advance or retreat, for concentrating the troops and supplies of Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana, or effectively repelling the invasion of the British and their horde of savage allies from the north. The construction of the fort was begun in February and originally covered a space of about ten acres. It was completed the last of April, and was named Fort Meigs in honor of Return Jonathan Meigs, then governor of Ohio. The fort was in the form of an irregular ellipse and was enclosed by sharpened palisades fifteen feet long and about twelve inches in diameter, cut from the adjoining forest. On bastions at convenient angles of the fort were erected nine strong blockhouses equipped with cannon, besides the regular

gun and mortar batteries. In the western end of the fort were located the magazine, forges, repair shops, storehouses and the officers' quarters. Harrison knew that Proctor was preparing at



NORTHERN OHIO WHEAT HARVEST.



UNITED STATES PRISON QUARTERS

On Johnson's Island, near Sandusky, for Confederate Soldiers Captured During Civil War.

Malden for an attack on the fort and that he would appear as soon as the ice was out of Lake Erie. On April twenty-sixth Proctor arrived in the river off the present site of Toledo with four hundred regulars of the forty-first regiment and eight hundred Canadians, and with a train of heavy battering artillery on board his ships. A force of eighteen hundred Indians under Tecumseh swept across in straggling columns by land from Malden. The British landed at old Fort Miami, a mile below Fort Meigs on the opposite side of the river. Fort Miami was then in a somewhat ruined condition, as the British had abandoned it shortly after Wayne's victory eighteen years before. It was hastily repaired and occupied by the British, Tecumseh with his Indians encamping close by. The British landed



GLACIAL EVIDENCES AT KELLEY'S ISLAND.
Note the smooth grooves in the rock made by the Ice drift.

their heavy guns at the watergate of the old fort and laboriously dragged them up the long slope to the high bank above. All night long they toiled in erecting their siege batteries. With teams of oxen and squads of two hundred men to each gun they hauled the heavy ordnance through mud two feet deep from old Fort Miami to the high embankment just opposite Fort Meigs. There early on the morning of May 1st, the British had four strong batteries in position, despite the incessant fire which the Americans from Fort Meigs had directed upon them.

These four batteries were known as the King's Battery, the Queen's Battery, the Sailors' Battery and the Mortar Battery, the latter throwing destructive bombs of various sizes. Harrison was characterized by great foresight and penetration as a general. On the night the British were planting their batteries, realizing that he had an available force of less

than eight hundred men, he dispatched a brave scout, Captain William Oliver, to General Green Clay, whom he knew was on the way with a large force of Kentuckians, to bid him hurry forward with his reinforcements. On the same night he set his men to work with spades and threw up the "grand traverse," an embankment of earth extending longitudinally through the middle of the fort, nine hundred feet long, twelve feet high and with a base width of twenty feet. The tents were taken down and the little army retired behind the great embankment and awaited the coming storm which broke in fury at dawn, on May 1st. The British batteries all opened at once with a perfect storm of red hot solid shot and screaming shells which



A LOGGING CAMP IN PAULDING COUNTY.
Showing that Pioneering is not a Lost Art in Ohio.



BOYS' INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, LUCAS COUNTY.

fell within the palisades, plowed up the earth of the grand traverse or went hissing over the fort and crashed into the woods beyond. The soldiers protected themselves by digging bomb-proof caves at the base of the grand traverse on the sheltered side, where they were quite secure, unless by chance a spinning shell rolled into one of them. For several days and nights the troops ate and slept in these holes under the embankment, ever ready to rush to the palisades or gates in case of a breach or an assault. During the siege a

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



ALLEN COUNTY'S FIRST COURT HOUSE,
Built in 1832.

cold, steady rain set in and the underground bomb-proof retreats gradually filled with water and mud. The soldiers were compelled to take to the open air behind the embankment where, having become used to the terrible uproar they ate, slept, joked and played cards. It is related that Harrison offered a reward of a gill of whiskey for each British cannon ball that should be returned to the magazine keeper. On a single day of the siege, it is said, a thousand balls were thus secured and hurled back by the American batteries which constantly replied to the British fire, night and day, frequently dismounting their guns. One of the American militiamen became very expert in detecting the destined course of the British projectiles and would faithfully warn the garrison. He would take his station on the embankment in

defiance of danger. When the smoke issued from the gun he would shout "shot," or "bomb" whichever it might be. At times he would say, "blockhouse No., 1" or "main battery" as the case might be. Sometimes growing facetious he would yell, "now for the meat house," or if the shot was too high he would exclaim, "now good-bye, if you will pass." One day he remained silent and puzzled, as the shot came in the direct line of his vision. He watched and peered while the ball came straight on and dashed him to fragments. One the third night of the siege a detachment of British together with a large force of Indians



BIRTHPLACE OF THOMAS A. EDISON,
Milan, Erie County.

crossed the river below Fort Meigs and passing up a little ravine planted on its margin, southeast of the fort, and within two hundred and fifty yards, two new batteries.

The garrison was now subjected to a terrible cross-fire, and the Indians, climbing trees in the vicinity, poured in a galling rifle fire, killing some and wounding many of the garrison. On the morning of the fourth of May, Proctor sent to Harrison a demand for the surrender of the fort. Harrison replied to the officer who bore Proctor's demand, "Tell your General that if he obtains possession of this fort it will be under circumstances that will do him far more honor than would my surrender." On the night of May fourth Captain Oliver crept into the fort under cover of darkness and informed Harrison that General Green Clay



HOTEL VICTORY, PUT-IN BAY.



BLANCHARD RIVER AT GILBOA, PUTNAM COUNTY.

with twelve hundred Kentucky militia was at that moment descending the Maumee in eighteen large barges and could reach the fort in two hours, but would wait the orders of Harrison. The command was immediately sent out for Clay to come down the river, land eight hundred men on the northern bank, seize and spike the British cannon and then immediately cross the river to Fort Meigs. The other four hundred Kentuckians were ordered to land on the southern bank directly under the fort and fight their way in at the gate, the garrison in the meantime making sallies to aid in the movement. Colonel Dudley, being second in command, led the van and landed his boats about one mile above the British batteries on the northern bank of the river. He formed his eight hundred men in three lines and marched silently down upon the batteries in the darkness. The Kentuckians took the British completely by surprise. They closed in upon the guns and charged with the bayonet, the artillerymen and

Indians fleeing for their lives. They spiked the British guns and rolled some of them down the embankment, but unfortunately the spiking was done with ramrods instead of with the usual steel implements, and the British subsequently put the guns in action again. Had the Americans now obeyed the orders of Harrison and crossed the river and entered the fort all would have been well. But the Kentucky militia were eager for a fight, and elated by their success in capturing the batteries, they began a pursuit of the fleeing Indians. In vain they were called to by friends from Fort Meigs who saw their danger.

Wildly the cheering Kentuckians dashed into the forest after the flying savages who artfully led them on. Then in the deep recesses of the forest a multitude of savages rose up around them. Tomahawks were hurled at them and shots came thick and fast from behind trees and bushes. Realizing that they had fallen into an ambuscade they began a hasty and confused retreat toward the batteries. But in the meantime the British regulars

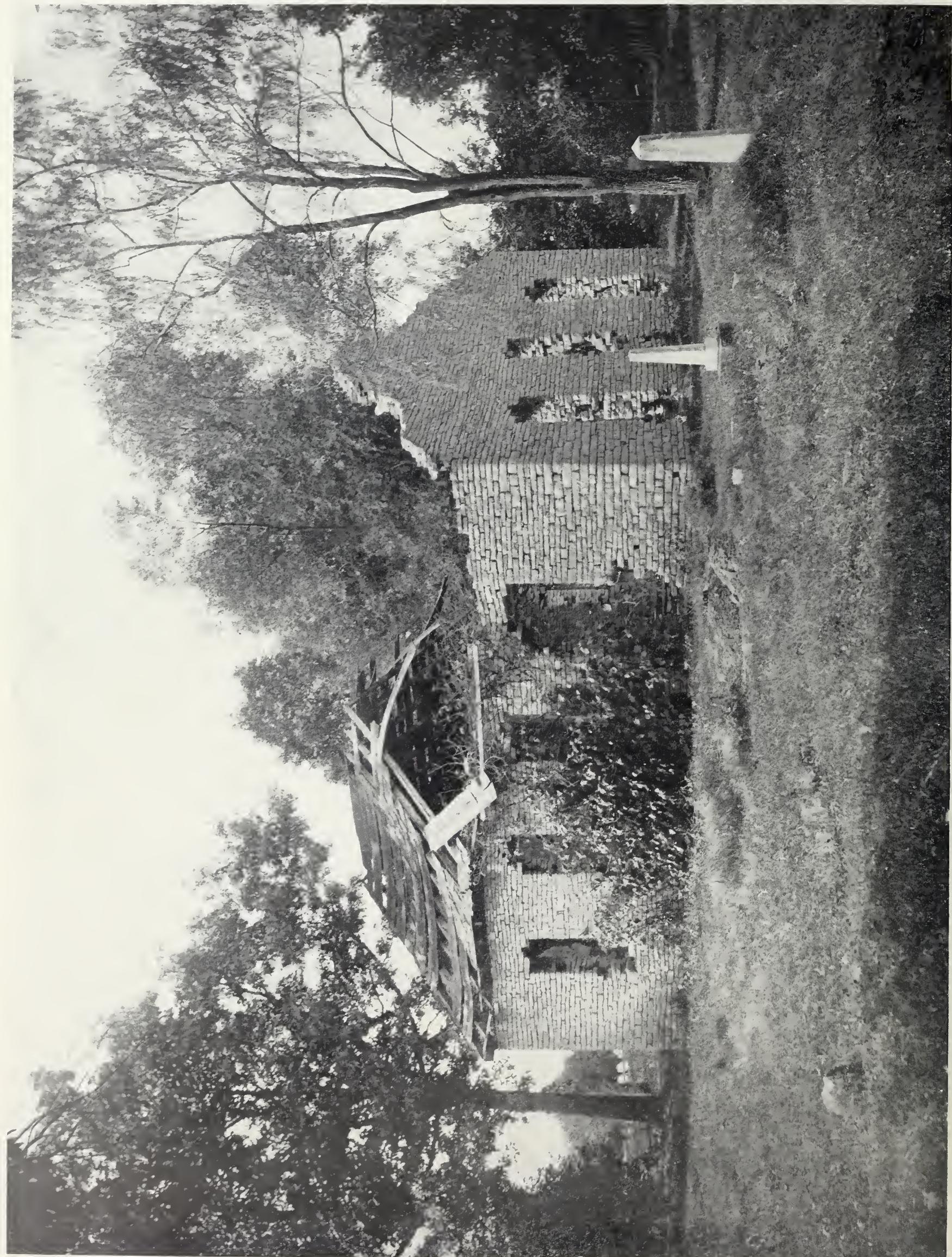
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INSCRIPTION ROCK, KELLEY'S ISLAND.



B. & O. ELEVATOR, SANDUSKY.



OLD MISSION CHURCH, UPPER SANDUSKY. BUILT IN 1827.



INTERIOR OF PERRY'S CAVE, PUT-IN-BAY.

the southern gate and attacked the batteries on the ravine. They succeeded in spiking all the guns and captured forty-two prisoners, two of them British officers. After this an armistice occurred for burying the dead and exchanging prisoners. Harrison prudently took advantage of the lull in the conflict to get the ammunition and supplies, that had come on the boats, into the fort. The batteries then again resumed fire, but the Indians had become weary of the siege, a method of warfare so much opposed to their taste and genius. They had become glutted too with blood and scalps, and were heavily laden with the spoils of Dudley's massacred troops. So in spite of Tecumseh's protests they gradually slipped away in the forest toward their northern homes. Proctor now became disheartened by the desertion of his allies and feared the coming of more reinforcements for Harrison. The stars and stripes still waved above the garrison, and Fort Meigs was stronger and more impregnable than ever. Sickness broke out among the British troops encamped upon the damp ground and



CEDAR POINT RESORT, AT SANDUSKY.

had come up from old Fort Miami and thrown themselves between the river and the retreating Americans. About one hundred and fifty cut their way through and escaped across the river. At least two hundred and fifty were cut to pieces by the savages and about four hundred were captured. The prisoners were marched down to the old fort to be put on board ships. On the way the Indians began butchering the helpless prisoners.

Tecumseh, far more humane than his white allies, hearing of the massacre, dashed up on his horse, and seeing two Indians butchering an American, he brained one with his tomahawk and felled the other to the earth. Drake states that on this occasion Tecumseh seemed rent with grief and passion and cried out, "Oh, what will become of my poor Indians." Seeing Proctor standing near, Tecumseh sternly asked him why he had not stopped the inhuman massacre. "Sir, your Indians cannot be commanded," replied Proctor. "Begone, you are unfit to command; go and put on petticoats," retorted Tecumseh. After this incident the prisoners were not further molested.

On the other side of the river events had gone quite differently. The four hundred who landed on the south bank with the help of a sallying party, after a bloody struggle, succeeded in entering the fort. At the same time the garrison made a brilliant sortie from

squads of the Canadian militia began to desert, stealing away under cover of darkness. Tecumseh, unconquerable and determined, still remained upon the ground with four hundred braves of his own tribe, the Shawanees.

Few of the present day can know or even imagine the



SCENE ON SANDUSKY RIVER, NEAR BUCYRUS, CRAWFORD COUNTY.



OLD MISSION HOUSE.

On the Maumee River, in Wood County, two miles above Waterville. Isaac Van Tassel taught Indian school in this building

horrible scenes that took place within the precincts of Tecumseh's camp shortly after the massacre of Dudley's troops. A British officer who took part in the siege, writing in 1826, tells of a visit to the Indian camp on the day after the massacre. The camp was filled with the clothes and plunder stripped from the slaughtered soldiers and officers. The lodges were adorned with saddles, bridles and richly ornamented swords and pistols. Swarthy savages strutted about in cavalry boots and the fine uniforms of American officers.

The Indian wolf dogs were gnawing the bones of the fallen. Everywhere were scalps and the skins of hands and feet stretched on hoops, stained on the fleshy side with vermillion, and drying in the sun. At one place was found a circle of Indians seated around a huge kettle boiling fragments of slaughtered American soldiers, each Indian with a string attached to his particular portion. Being invited to partake of the hideous repast, the officer relates that he and his companion turned away in loathing and disgust, excusing themselves with the plea that they had already dined. On the ninth of May, dispairing of reducing Fort Meigs, Proctor anchored his gun-boats under the batteries, and although subjected to constant fire from the Americans, embarked his guns and troops and sailed away to Malden. But before dismounting the batteries they all fired at once a

parting salute, by which ten or twelve of the Americans were killed and about twenty-five wounded. Thus for about twelve days was the beleaguered garrison hemmed in by the invading horde. The Americans suffered them to depart without molestation, for as one of the garrison said, "we are glad to be rid of them on any terms." The same writer says, "The next morning found us somewhat more tranquil. We could leave the ditches and walk about with more of an air of freedom than we had done for fourteen days; and I wish I could present to the reader a picture of the condition we found ourselves in when the withdrawal of the enemy gave us time to look at each other's outward appearance. The scarcity of water had put the washing of our hands and faces, much less our linen, out of the question. Many had scarcely any clothing left, and that which they had was so begrimed and torn by our residence in the ditch and other means, that we presented the appearance of so many scare-crows."

Proctor appeared again in the river



SHALEROCK NEAR MARBLEHEAD, ALONG LAKE ERIE.

during this siege that the Indians and British secreted themselves in the woods southeast of the fort and got up a sham battle among themselves, with great noise and firing, in order to draw out the garrison. But this ruse did not deceive General Clay, then in command, although many of the soldiers angrily demanded to be led out to the assistance of comrades who, they imagined, had been attacked while coming to relieve the besieged garrison. On the twenty-eighth Proctor and his Indian allies again departed, going to attack Fort Stephenson, whose glorious victory under young Croghan was one of the great achievements of the War of 1812.

During the siege of Fort Meigs, from May first to the fifth, besides the massacred troops of Colonel Dudley, the garrison, in sorties and within the fort, had eighty-one killed and one hundred and eighty-nine wounded. The sunken and grass-grown graves of the heroes who lost their lives at Fort Meigs are still to be seen upon the spot.

The events that followed the heroic resistance of Fort Meigs are no doubt too well known to require narration.

The famous victory of Perry in the following September cleared Lake Erie of the British fleet. Proctor and Tecumseh fled from Malden and Harrison's army pursued, overtaking them at the Thames. There the British were completely routed and



A FARMING SCENE IN WOOD COUNTY.
Ready for the Afternoon's Work.

the brave Tecumseh was slain. This put an end to the war in the West and Michigan and Detroit again became American possessions.

The important part which Fort Meigs played in the war can now be seen. It was the rallying point for troops, and the great storehouse of supplies for the Western army. It was the Gibraltar of the Maumee Valley and rolled back the tide of British

invasion while Perry was cutting his green ship timbers from the forest around Erie, and it was to Harrison at Fort Meigs that Perry's world-famed dispatch came when the British fleet had struck their colors off Put-in-Bay: "We have met the enemy and they are ours; two ships, two brigs, one schooner and one sloop." All honor to old Fort Meigs! The rain and the frost and the farmer's plow are fast obliterating the ruins of the grand old stronghold that once preserved the great Northwest for the United States. Little remains there now, where the roar of battle broke the air, and the devoted band of patriots stood their ground under the shower of iron hail and shrieking shells that for days were hurled upon



A BLACK SWAMP CORN FIELD.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



INDIAN ROCK, KELLEY'S ISLAND.
(See Descriptive Note.)

them. The long green line of the grand traverse, with its four gateways, still stretches across the plain and the peaceful kine are browsing along its sides. And near by, sunken, unmarked, weed-grown and neglected, are the graves of the heroic dead who fell in the fearful strife.—*From Sketch by H. W. Compton.*

BATTLE OF FALLEN TIMBERS.—In June, of 1794, while Wayne was getting up supplies for the march against the Indian towns, and waiting for the ground to dry, Fort Recovery, garrisoned by two hundred men under Captain Gibson, was suddenly attacked one morning at dawn by two thousand Indians under command of Little Turtle. The garrison was taken by surprise, but made a valorous defense, mowing down the Indians, who attempted to take the place by storm. After the first assault the Indians retired and



RESIDENCE OF JUDGE BEERS AT BUCYRUS
This House is Located upon the Dividing Line of the Watershed from Which on One Side the Water That Runs from the Roof Flows into Lake Erie and the Other into the Gulf of Mexico.



HORSE SHOE BEND.
Near Upper Sandusky, Wyandot County.

kept up a desultory firing at a distance for two days, and then disappeared, carrying with them a large number of their dead and wounded. They had anticipated an easy victory, but met with a discouraging and humiliating repulse, which they long deplored as one of their worst defeats. About three weeks after the repulse of the Indians at Fort Recovery, Wayne's legion was joined by a thousand mounted riflemen from Kentucky under command of General Scott, and he then began his march against the hostile villages on the Maumee, but he kept the destination of the expedition a secret, so that not even his own troops knew where he would strike the first blow. He further mystified the Indians by sending out squads of axmen in advance to cut roads in different directions. The result was that until Wayne suddenly appeared at the confluence of the Auglaize and the Maumee, the Indians were in uncertainty as to where he meant to strike, and were unable to concentrate their warriors for attack or defense. Unlike St. Clair, Wayne kept in his employ during the whole of northward march, a body of about forty trained spies and scouts, whom he

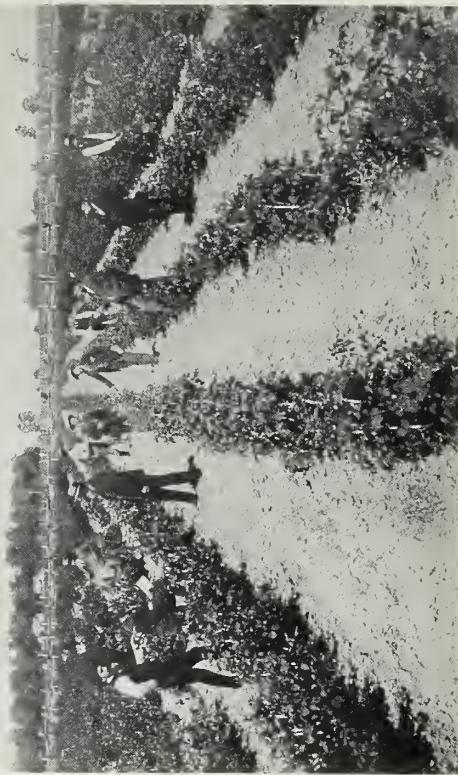
had selected from the wild white Indian fighters. These men had been cradled in frontier cabins and had grown to manhood on the very hunting grounds of the Indians. Some of them had been captives from childhood among the savages, and knew well the speech, custom and habits of the Indians. These men were the athletes of the woods, tall, strong, long limbed, fleet footed, keen eyed, skilled marksman and absolutely without fear. To them the yell of a savage, that was meant to be so terrifying, was empty bluster and vain bravado. Prominent among them were such men as Simon Kenton, the Poes, the Wetzels, the Miller Brothers, Ephraim Kibbie, Robert McClelland and William Wells. The latter was the chief of the scouts, and was a man of great intelligence and unfaltering courage. He had been captured when twelve years old, and had grown up among the Miamis, and had married a sister of the great chief, Little Turtle. He fought with the Indians against Harmar and St. Clair, but when Wayne organized his Legion, Wells suddenly left the Indians, presented himself before Wayne and enlisted as a scout for the Americans, and rendered invaluable service during the whole of the campaign.



VIEW ON THE SANDUSKY RIVER
Near Mexico, Wyandot County.

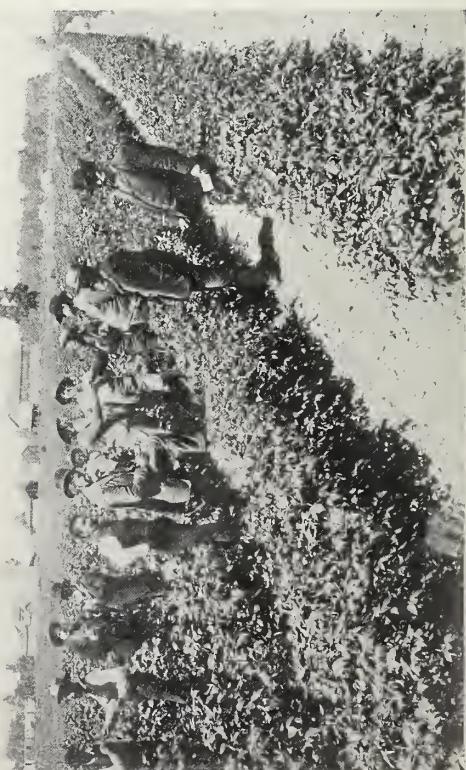


WINNOW'S POINT DUCKING CLUB, SANDUSKY BAY.



BLACKBERRY PATCH.

The historical account that is always given of Wells leaving the Indians is, that after the battles with Harmar and St. Clair, dim memories of his childhood began to come back to him, and he was haunted by fear that in some of the bloody battles against the whites in which he had taken part he might have killed some of his white kindred; so one day he went to Little Turtle and said: "We have long been friends; we are friends yet; until the sun stands so high (indicating the place) in the heavens; from that time we are enemies and may kill one another." And history relates that after this speech he went and joined Wayne's army. Some of Wells' descendants, through his Indian wife, still compose some of the best families in the Maumee Valley, and these descendants now relate a secret family tradition which has been guarded for over a hundred years, setting forth the true reasons why Wells suddenly left his



RASPBERRY PATCH.



COUNTRY HOME OF J. L. PRAY,
Waterville.



SOLDIERS' HOME, SANDUSKY.



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL,
Upper Sandusky.

Indian kindred and joined Wayne's forces as spy and scout. This account is that the astute and far-seeing mind of Little Turtle realized that at last the strong arm of the United States was raised to strike a crushing blow against the confederated tribes; he wished to have a friend at court when the final and certain defeat came, so he called Wells to him and said: "You are a white man. You have been fighting against your own flesh and blood. Go to Wayne and serve him loyally. If he conquers us in the great battle coming on, you can do your Indian friends much good. If we conquer him, I will take care of you."

This is, no doubt the true story as to why Wells' allied himself to the American cause and rendered such signal service, for it is well known that after the battle he was joined by his Indian wife and children, and he and Little Turtle received special favors at the hands of the United States goverment. Wells finally lost his life at the Chicago Massacre in the War of 1812.



CASTALIA CLUB TROUT GROUNDS NEAR SANDUSKY, ONE OF THE GREATEST TROUT STREAMS IN AMERICA.



FIRST STONE HOUSE BUILT IN NORTHERN OHIO.
The Old Stone House at Bogart, Built in 1816, the First One
Erected in Northern Ohio.

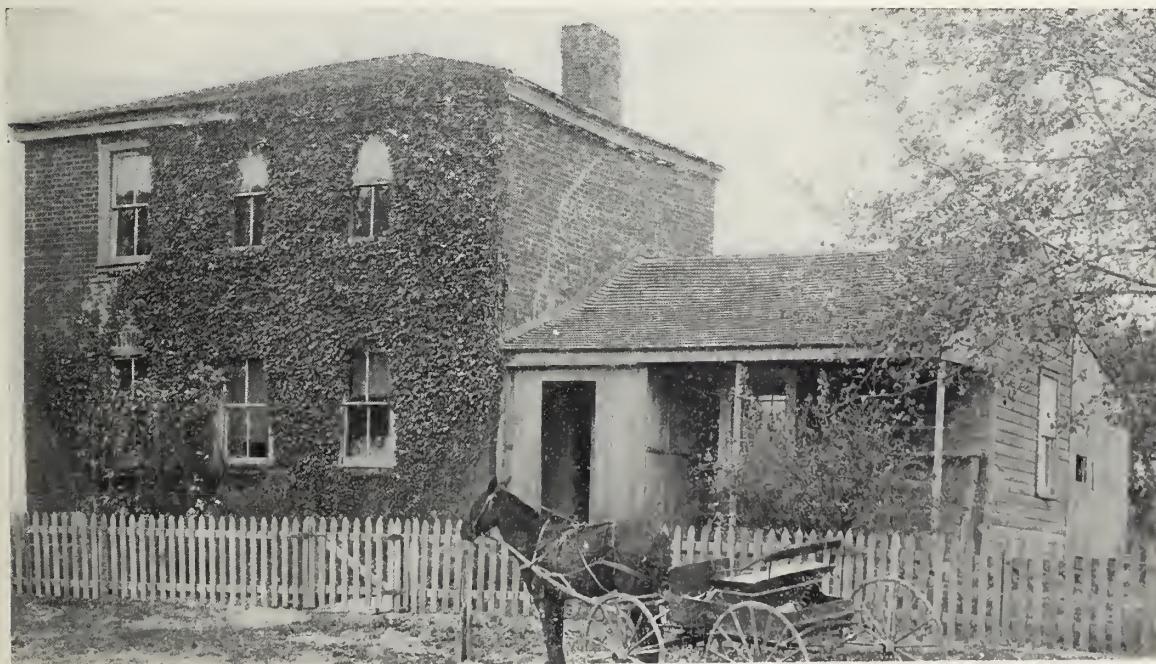
On his northward march from Fort Greenville, Wayne kept his daring scouts and spies threading the forest wilds far in advance and on either side. They harried the hostile bands of savages in the woods, and lurked along the streams and rivers watching every movement of the foe, reporting full information to Wayne. They even penetrated to the distant encampments of the savages, and seized, bound and carried off Indian men and women that Wayne might interview the captives as to the plans and movements of the enemy. Wayne himself was determined to avoid the fates of Braddock and St. Clair. He marched through the forest with his ranks in open order, his advance and rear guards out, and flankers scouring the woods on either side. He was at all times ready for instant battle. He halted at the middle of each afternoon and encamped his troops in the form of a hollow square, with the cavalry in the center. He then had the

divisions on each side of the square cut down trees and throw up earthworks as a protection during the night. How this caution of the hero of Stony Point contrasts with the folly of Braddock and St. Clair, whose troops had been helplessly huddled in unprotected masses, to be mowed down by the pitiless hail of Indian bullets.

Guarding his army with ceaseless vigilance, Wayne marched without opposition and suddenly appeared at the forks of the Auglaize and the Maumee, the Indians fleeing for their lives down the river. The Indians of the Maumee Valley had long associated with the French and from them had acquired considerable agricultural skill and many of the arts of civilization. Along the Maumee for about fifty miles there were numerous Indian villages containing well built log homes; there were deep fruited orchards of apple and peach and vast fields of corn and vegetables. The corn was just in the stage of the roasting ear and Wayne's soldiers reveled in the abundance of fresh food. The army rested here for a week and constructed a strong post which Wayne called Fort Defiance. It was built in the point where the rivers meet in the form of a square, with strong palisades, bastions and a block house at each corner. It was further protected by a deep moat and high embankment outside of the palisades. Wayne garrisoned this strong fort with two hundred men and then sent out his cavalry, who for miles up and down the river burned the villages and laid utterly waste the orchards



FIRST STONE BUILDING ERECTED IN 1821 AT SANDUSKY.



OLD BLOOMINGVILLE BANK BUILDING, ERIE COUNTY.

and cornfields. What had been but a little before a scene of peace and plenty, the ravening hand of war left an area of smoking ruin and desolation. Wayne now deemed it fitting to send one last formal offer of peace to the two thousand Indian warriors that were assembled with their British allies around the British Fort Miami, about forty miles below, at the foot of the rapids. This fort had just been built the preceding spring, April, 1794, by Governor Simcoe of Canada, and it stood far within American territory granted by the treaty of 1783 at Paris. If there had been any doubt about the attitude of the British toward



PUBLIC SQUARE, SANDUSKY, ERIE COUNTY

the Americans and their encouragement of the Indians, all such doubt vanished when Simcoe sent four companies of British regulars and built this strong fortress far within the acknowledged limits of the United States. Fort Miami was garrisoned with four hundred and fifty British regulars, was strongly built and mounted ten heavy guns, besides mortars and swivels. It was, as it was meant to be, a strong rallying place and depot of arms and provisions for the hostile Indian confederacy of the Northwest. The ruins of the old fort are still plainly visible on the west bank of the river about a mile below the village of Mannee. In a time of peace between the two nations, the parliament of England permitted its agents in the Northwest to dispense from Fort Miami the weapons, ammunition and provisions which enabled the savage tribes to harry the struggling settlers of Ohio and wage their battle against the Legion of Wayne. While this perfidy and bad faith on the part of the British must ever tend to excite the contempt and animosity of Americans, we should also remember that the generation of Englishmen defeated in the War of the Revolution were still alive at that time, and all the jealousies and hatreds enkindled by that great struggle were still fresh and vigorous and continued so until after the War of 1812. Indeed, almost a century of peace, with the added force of kindred ties and interests, has scarcely extinguished all traces of the hostile feeling between England and the

United States engendered by their early struggles for the control of the Western continent. Not waiting for answer to his offer of peace, Wayne marched from Fort Defiance on August 15, and reached Roche de Boeuf on the 18th. Roche de Boeuf was a celebrated landmark among the savage tribes. This massive, frowning rock still rises from the western edge of the river about a mile above the village of Waterville and about it still clutters a sanguinary Indian legend. On



VIEW IN MARBLEHEAD STONE QUARRY

Iroquois were encamped near the British Fort Miami with their right resting on Swan Creek.

Among them were the infamous trio, McKee, Girty and Elliott, declaiming against peace and urging them to battle. There were also among the Indians seventy white rangers from Detroit dressed in Indian costume under the lead of Captain Caldwell. The Indian forces were commanded by Blue Jacket, a Shawnee chieftain, and Little Turtle, chief of the Miamis. On the evening before the battle the Indians held a council to determine what course to pursue as they knew Wayne was rapidly approaching their encampment. Little Turtle was averse to battle and in council said: "We have beaten the enemy twice under separate commanders. We cannot expect the same good fortune always to attend us. The Americans are now led by a chief who never sleeps. The night and the day are alike to him. During all the time that he has been marching upon our villages, notwithstanding the watchfulness of our young men, we have never been able to surprise him. Think well of it. There is something whispers me it would be well to listen



PICKING PEACHES

supplies and baggage which he named Fort Deposit. On the morning of August 20th, he marched on down the river knowing that the Indians were near and that a battle was imminent. Wayne sent forward a battalion of the mounted Kentuckians with instructions upon discovering the savages, to retreat in feigned confusion in order to draw the Indians out of their covert and increase their confidence. The Kentuckians went far enough in advance to give Wayne time to form his troops in perfect order after the firing should begin. Major Price led the advance guard of mounted militia, and after an hour's march he received such a hot fire from the Indians hidden in the tall grass and trees as to compel him to retreat upon the main body. Wayne immediately drew up his infantry in two lines, placed the legionary cavalry on the right next the Maumee to assail the left flank of the savages and sent the volunteer cavalry under Scott, Todd and Barbee to the left to turn the right flank of the Indians and prevent them from performing a like service for the Americans. Wayne then gave orders for the front line to advance and charge with trailed arms, rouse the Indians from their covert

and pour a well directed fire upon their backs, charging briskly with the bayonet and not giving the Indians time to reload their pieces or reform their lines. The first line of the Legion obeyed the order with great promptitude and impetuosity. In the face



IN THE PASTURE FIELD

to his offers of peace." But Blue Jacket leaped up in the council and silenced Little Turtle by accusing him of cowardice. Little Turtle replied: "Follow me to battle."

The Indians then swept up through the woods in long columns and took up what they deemed an impregnable position on and around Presque Isle Hill where a tornado of a year or two before had thrown down the forest trees, interlacing them in such a manner as to form a covert for the savages and rendering it very difficult for cavalry to operate among the fallen timbers. The Indians formed in three long lines at supporting distances apart, their left resting on the river and their right extending some two miles into the forest at right angles to the river. Wayne halted at the Roche de Boeuf on the 19th and hastily constructed light works for the protection of his



OHIO CATTLE READY FOR THE MARKET



SPIEGEL GROVE.
The old home of President Hayes at Fremont.

of a deadly fire they rushed upon the savages among the fallen trees and prodded them from their hiding with the cold steel. The first line followed up the fleeing, painted horde with such swiftness and fury, pouring a destructive fire upon their backs, that but few of the second line caught up in time to participate

in the action. Many of the Indians tried to flee across the river but were cut down in the midst of the stream by the cavalry. The woods were strewn for miles with dead and wounded savages and with white Canadian militia painted and dressed in Indian costume. In the course of one hour the whole force of the enemy was driven more than two miles through the thick woods.

Says Wayne in his official report of the battle: "From every account the enemy amounted to two thousand combatants. The troops actually engaged against them were short of nine hundred. This horde of savages, with their allies, abandoned themselves to flight, and dispersed with terror and dismay, leaving our victorious army in full and quiet possession of the field of battle, which terminated under the influence of the guns of the British garrison."

Owing to the impetuosity of Wayne's first charge, the battle was too brief to be very sanguinary in its results, though the Americans lost thirty-three killed and about one hundred wounded. This loss occurred mainly at the first fire of the savages, when they lay hidden in their covert, taking deadly aim as the first line of the legion swept down upon them. The legionary cavalry next the river suffered



CLINTON STREET AND WABASH BRIDGES OVER MAUMEE RIVER, DEFIANCE.



CLOVER LEAF BRIDGE OVER MAUMEE AT GRAND RAPIDS.

severely at the first fire of the Indians. The dragoons galloped boldly among the Indians their horses leaping over the fallen logs, and dodging in and out among the trees. The troopers swung their long sabres, with terrible effect among the dismayed and yelling savages. The loss of the Indians was far more serious than that of the Americans, though the number of killed and wounded was never definitely known, as many of them were dragged or carried off the field and rescued by their fleeing friends. The Indian dead numbered at least one hundred, and were found strewn along all the way to the British fort.

The victorious Americans pursued the flying savages to the very walls of Fort Miami. The Indians confidently expected the British to throw open the gates of the fort and admit them to its protection, but to their surprise and indignation the British basely abandoned them in the hour of their defeat, and they were obliged to scatter in the forest for safety from the American bayonets, the British looking on with apparent unconcern at this humiliation and defeat of their late allies. Wayne seriously contemplated storming the British fort, and rode up with his aides to within a few hundred feet, and surveyed it through his glasses from all sides. Wayne's inspection of the fort had shown him that it was very strong, mounting many heavy guns, and having a large garrison of regular troops. Moreover, the fort was protected by a deep ditch in front of the lofty earthen parapet, surmounted by strong abattis. He saw

HORTICULTURAL SCENE ON J. W. FARNSWORTH'S FARM,
Near Waterville, Lucas County.

THRESHING WHEAT.

that it would cost the lives of many of his soldiers, so he wisely concluded not to sacrifice his troops, and precipitate war between the two countries by making the attack. The Americans contented themselves with proceeding immediately to burn and destroy all the supplies and buildings without the walls of the fort, McKee's residence among the number. While this ravaging and burning was going on, the British stood sullenly by their guns, it is said, with lighted torches, but not daring to fire, well knowing what the result would be. After razing and burning everything within the vicinity of the fort, Wayne sent out his cavalry and destroyed the Indian villages for miles up and down the river. After staying in the vicinity of the fort for three days, Wayne marched slowly back to Fort Defiance.



OLD POWDER MAGAZINE ON JOHNSON'S ISLAND,
Used in Civil War, 1861-65, When Confederate Prisoners Were Kept There.

Measured by its duration and the numbers engaged, this conflict was not one of the great struggles of the world; but estimated by the issues involved, the interest at stake, it was one of the most important battles in the history of the race. The peopling of a vast empire, the development of untold riches, the spread of a beneficent civilization, all awaited the result of that cautious march of Wayne's little legion, and their valorous and irresistible charge among the fallen timbers of the Maumee.

FORT STEPHENSON, NOW FREMONT, IN HISTORY.—The Sandusky country in aboriginal history, possesses a peculiar charm and fascinating interest. During that period of years which fills western

annals with the story of intrigue and bloody conflict, the plains and prairies of the Sandusky Valley were the home of the most powerful and most generous of the savage nations.

Less than a century ago, these plains, now covered by a thriving city, presented an interesting variety of the scenes of Indian life—primitive agriculture, rude cabins, canoe building, amusements and the council fire. Tradition goes back a century farther, and makes the locality of this city the seat of a still more interesting people; a people who, for a time, preserved existence by neutrality, while war, which raged with shocking ferocity, effected the extinction of the neighboring tribes. Nothing is known of the aboriginal occupation of Ohio previous to 1650, but according to a tradition of the Wyandots, during the long and



CONFEDERATE CEMETERY JOHNSON'S ISLAND, NEAR SANDUSKY.



THE FINDLAY CLAY POTTERY FACTORY, FINDLAY.

bloody wars, between the Eastern and Western tribes, there lived upon the Sandusky a neutral tribe of Wyandots, called the Neutral Nation. They occupied two villages, which were cities of refuge, where those who sought safety never failed to find it. These villages stood near the lower rapids of the Sandusky River where Fremont now stands. This little band preserved the integrity of their tribe and the sacred character of peacemakers. All who met upon their threshold met as friends, for the ground upon which they stood was holy. It was a beautiful institution; "a calm and peaceful island looking out upon the world of waves and tempests." The Wyandot tradition represents them as having separated from the parent stock during the bloody wars with their own tribe and Iroquois, and having fled to the Sandusky River for safety. The tradition runs, that, at the lower rapids, two forts were erected, one for the Iroquois or Six Nations, the other for their enemies. These traditions, handed down along the generations for nearly two centuries, may, perhaps, be

inaccurate in detail, but the general fact of the existence of two such towns, near the head waters of navigation on the Sandusky River is entitled to as much consideration as any other fact of early Indian history.

Just when the Wyandots finally migrated to the plains of the Sandusky is not known. Colonel Smith, in his narrative, claims to have visited, in 1757, a town on the "Little Lake"—which was the name given Sandusky Bay—named Sonyendeand, which was probably in Erie County. Although he ascended the river, he makes no mention of a village at the lower rapids. "When we came to the falls of Sandusky," says the narrative, "we buried our birch bark canoes, as usual, at a large place, for that purpose, a little below the fall; at this place the river falls about eight feet over a rock, and it was with much difficulty that we pushed up our wooden canoes." The Wyandots were the guardians of the great council fire; they alone had the privilege of sending messengers with the well known credentials, wampum and tobacco, to summon other tribes to meet their



INTERIOR VIEW OF FORD GLASS WORKS AT ROSSFORD.



SECTION OF FORD GLASS WORKS AT ROSSFORD.

uncle, the Wyandot, when an important subject required deliberation.

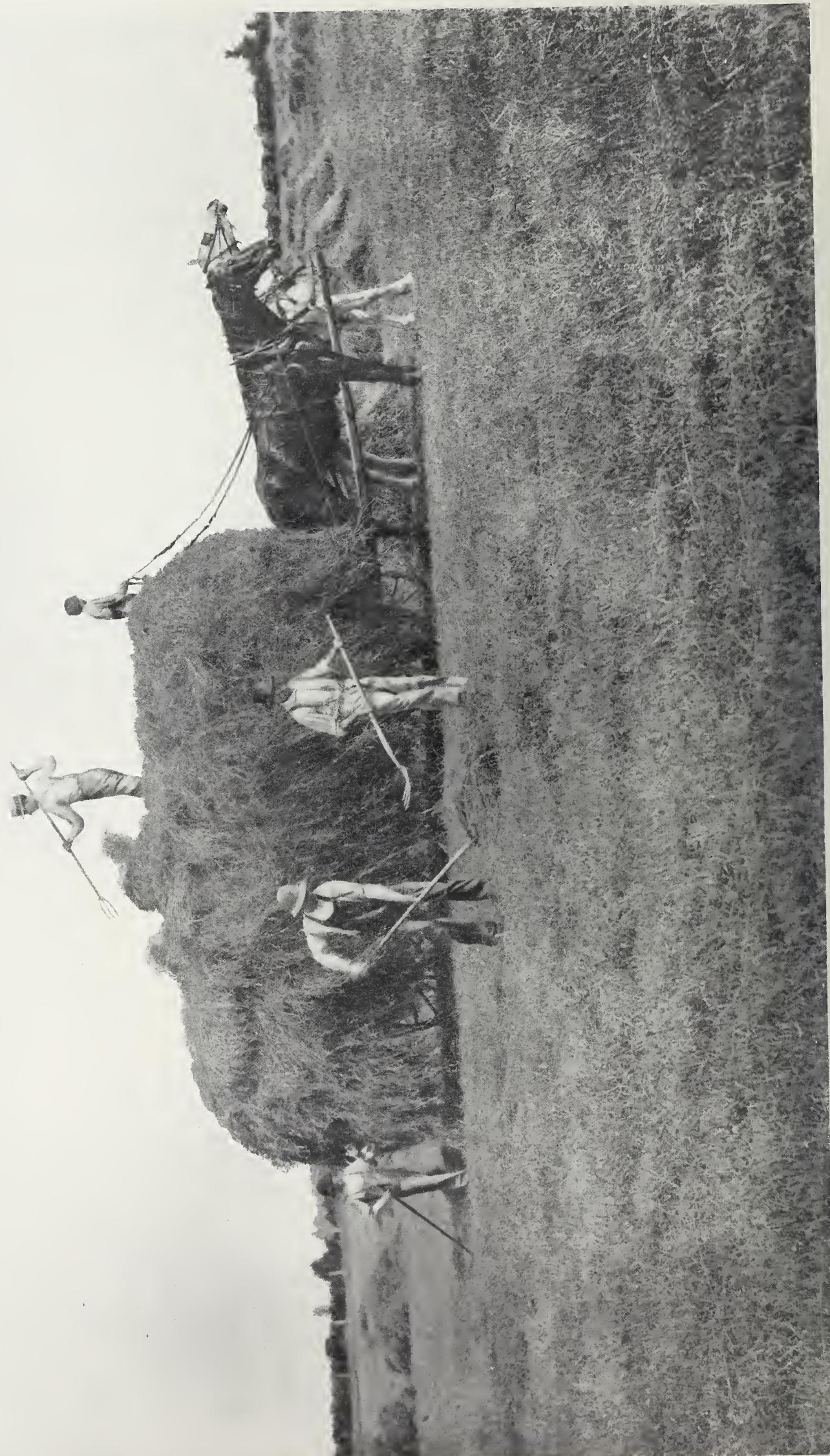
The Wyandots were the keepers of the Grand Calumet, and were acknowledged to be at the head of the great Indian family. Lower Sandusky became the principal war seat of the Wyandots, and "Tarhe, the Crane," the principal war chief, lived here until Wayne's victory and the treaty of Greenville in 1795. Crane led his warriors from Lower Sandusky against General Wayne, and he, himself, carried the Grand Calumet.

The first mention of an Indian village at Lower Sandusky is made by Colonel Bouquet, in his report of 1764, where he speaks of the Wyandot village "Junque-in-dundeh," near the falls of Sandusky, on an Indian trail leading from Fort Pitt in a northwestly direction. We have no satisfactory knowledge of this Indian village which occupied the hill, rising toward the east from the head waters of navigation, until about 1780 when the well known borderer, Samuel Brady, at the



THE DALZELL GLASS FACTORY, FINDLAY.

suggestion of George Washington, came here as a spy, to learn, if possible, the strength of the Indians, and the geography of the country. The name Sandusky is derived from the language of the Wyandots. The pronunciation of word was "Sa-un-dus-tee." Its significance has been a matter of some question and dispute, but according to the best authorities, it meant "water within water pools," or a river or water course where water stands in pools. The name having this peculiar signification, in early times, was used to designate the whole country along the Sandusky River, and the village at this point was called Lower Sandusky.



AN IDEAL HAY-MAKING DAY ON THE FARM.

Affairs at Lower Sandusky during this long period of border war, extending from the opening of the Revolution to the celebrated victory of General Wayne possesses a peculiar interest. This was an important military center, and every narrative relating to the place is a glimpse into the enemy's camp. The Wyandots had corn fields all along the river bottom, which were cultivated by the squaws and boys, each family having a small field with no fences between them. The plains now covered by the lower part of the city of Fremont were cleared land when first seen by white men and, except the tract used for the village, the councils, the racing and gaming, bore corn season after season. The northwestern part of Ohio being almost an impenetrable swamp, the Sandusky River became the common thoroughfare of all the Ohio tribes. War parties usually came to this point on foot, or on horses captured in the white settlements, and when captives were to be taken further, as most of them were, canoes were used for transportation. Probably more captives were brought to Lower Sandusky than to any



WOOD COUNTY INFIRMARY.



BIG CONCRÉTION IN BED OF CREEK, HURON COUNTY.

other place in Ohio. This place was a retreat where prisoners were brought and disposed of, many being sent to Detroit and Canada. So far as is known, not a prisoner was tortured here at the stake, and in most cases captives who passed the gauntlet safely and bravely were kindly treated. A certain class of writers, who depend upon a vivid imagination to supply deficiencies of information, have made the Indian gauntlet an institution of the most shocking cruelty. It is true severe tortures were often inflicted upon prisoners, the degree depending much upon their fortitude and presence of mind, for no people admired bravery as the Indians did. But the gauntlet was rather a place of amusement than punishment, unless the offense had been one worthy of particular revenge. The gauntlet track of the Wyandots, here at Lower Sandusky, has been almost

positively located, on what is now known as North Front street in this city. According to the description, the lines of the savages extended from the corner of Front and Crogan streets, to the Old Kessler House corner, and the council was probably held on the site of the business blocks on the west side of Front street. The fact that Daniel Boone was brought through Lower Sandusky, while in captivity is worthy of mention, because of the celebrity of that unequalled hero of border annals.

About the year 1780, a party of negroes were captured by the Indians in Virginia and brought to the Sandusky River, where they were held as slaves. They were placed in charge of a peninsular tract of land, about six miles down the river, which they cultivated for the Indians, no doubt to the great



A COUNTRY FARM SCENE, NEAR BOWLING GREEN.



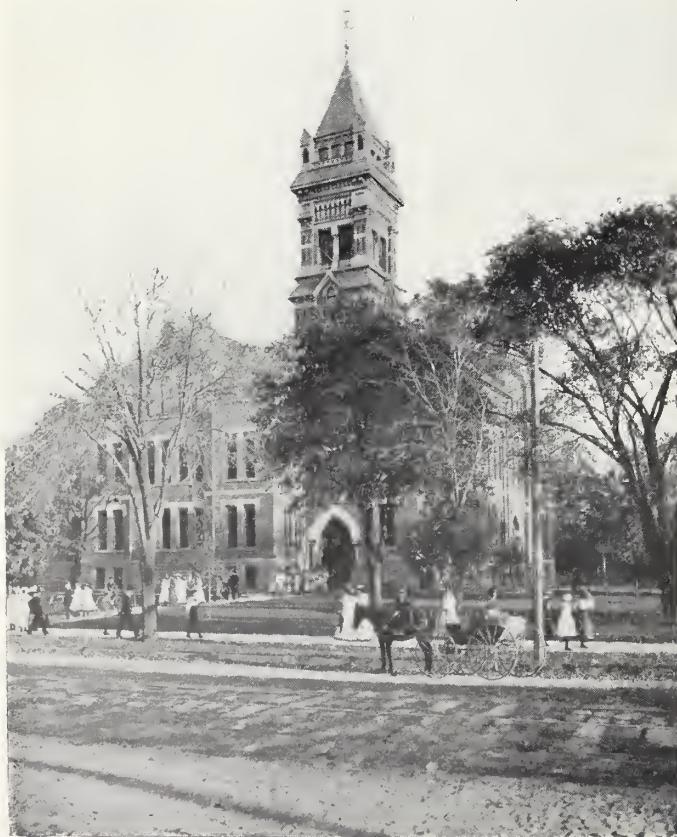
ON THE PUBLIC SQUARE, BUCYRUS, CRAWFORD COUNTY.

satisfaction of the squaws, upon whom devolved the menial labor. The peninsular became known as "Negro Point," or in common parlance "Nigger Bend," a name which is familiar to us all, and which it has retained ever since—a period of a century or more.

It should be remembered, that, in their treaties and conveyances of the Great West to Great Britain, the Indians did not part with their title to the land. They simply placed themselves under the protection of Great Britain and their lands were to be held in trust for them and their heirs. Hence, the Indians were justified in contending for the possession of their inheritance.

ence in settling the title to the lands in Sandusky County. By the treaty of Greenville, the Indians ceded to the United States, among other parcels of land, "Two miles square at the lower rapids of the Sandusky River," which was the first land in Sandusky County ceded by the Indians to the United States. The tract was afterwards surveyed by the United States, and the lines of that survey are now the boundary lines of the City of Fremont. It is a fact worthy of note, and one of which we may well be proud, that the title to every foot of Ohio soil was honorably acquired from the Indians.

The people of Fremont are fortunate in having preserved nearly in its original form and appearance, by the thoughtfulness which set it apart and adorned it as a park, the place of one of those picturesque events of war, which, from the first, fastened

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL,
Norwalk, Huron County.

EVENING ON SANDUSKY BAY.

True, it is, they had no title papers, signed by man or by any human authority, but they believed that the Great Spirit had given them their happy hunting grounds, and when they saw the "pale faces" settling and building on their domains, and killing the game which was given them to live upon, they were roused to resistance. They had no court to try their titles, but that court of last resort, the court of force, a trial by wager of battle, and their arguments were not made by attorneys, but by the rifle, the tomahawk and the scalping knife. The recital of their cruelties curdles the blood with horror—the burning of Colonel Crawford in 1782, the destruction of St. Clair's army in 1791, the butchery of Harmar's men, were attended by scenes and incidents of indescribable cruelty. The final contests over the right to occupy the Northwest took place on the banks of the Maumee River in 1794, in the Battle of Fallen Timbers, and had a powerful influ-



AN OUTING.

the public attention. It was not necessary to dig it out of oblivion, and there was no danger that any one should say that local pride had magnified a thing which the world had forgotten. In every history of our country it has been caught up by the historian, as a brilliant picture with which to enliven his pages. Fort Stephenson was from the first an historic place, and Major Croghan's defense of it was recognized as an heroic act, worthy of being described in the noblest words that history can use.

In 1813 there was no city of Fremont. Even Lower Sandusky, as the spot was called, had not yet become a civilized town, and only marked the place where a village of Wyandot Indians had long been known. Fort Stephenson covered the pretty knoll now occupied by the City Hall, Birchard Library and the Monument. But what was it? A feeble earthwork, surrounded by a ditch and stockade, with a little blockhouse at the southwest corner, which served as a sort of a bastion to sweep the ditch. Its garrison was a mere handful of men; its only artillery a single six-pound gun. No legalized white settlement had, at this time, been made on the lake shore in Ohio

west of the new village of Cleveland, as the tide of civilized migration had only lately crossed the Ohio. The whole northwestern quarter of the State, therefore, was Indian territory, and its tribes, confederated by the genius of Tecumseh, a man of no ordinary power, were banded with the red nations of Indiana and the Great West to resist the further advance of the whites. The forts were only isolated outposts, in the midst of hostile territory, built to protect the communications of the army with the more distant posts at Chicago and Detroit. For this purpose Fort Stephenson was built,



CORN CUTTING IN BLACK SWAMP.

here at Lower Sandusky, on the hostile side of the river, so that a crossing might always be in the power of our troops. Here was the promise of a frontier place of importance, both for trade with the Indians, in times of peace, and a depot of supplies for interior settlements, as they might be formed. The name Stephenson was probably given to the fort owing to the fact that Colonel Stephenson at one time commanded the post, and it is supposed to have been built under his direction in 1812. The walls of the fort were made of logs, some round and some flat on one side, averaging about eighteen inches thick and ten feet high, set perpendicularly in the earth, each picket crowded closely against the other, and sharpened at the top. The walls enclosed about one acre of ground, on a bluff formed by the hills, bounding the valley of the river on the east, and a ravine, running in a northeasterly direction, cutting through the bluff north of the fort. After Major Croghan arrived at Fort Stephenson he labored day and night to put it in a state of defense. He had a ditch six feet deep and nine feet wide dug around



VIEW OF THE OIL DERRICKS IN DISTANCE FROM LIMA.



POTATO DIGGING, SANDUSKY COUNTY.



LAKE SHORE LIMITED TAKING WATER AT SANDUSKY.

it outside, throwing the earth against the foot of the pickets, and grading it sharply down to the bottom of the ditch. Later in the year, an additional area, equal to the area of the original fort, was added to the enclosure. In order to prevent the enemy from scaling the walls, should they succeed in leaping the ditch, Major Croghan had large logs placed on top of the fort, and so adjusted that the least weight should cause them to fall from their position and crush all who might be below. Fort Stephenson was wisely located to give protection to our growing settlements, and to become the nucleus of a vigorous colony. It is only when we remember all this that we fully appreciate its military importance and the necessity of holding it with a firm and determined grasp.

About this time, the English, taking advantage of the dissatisfaction of the Indians, as they supposed they had a right to do, made alliance with them and gave Tecumseh the rank of a general in their army. Out of this alliance grew the great peril of the frontier. Only a little while before, the fort where Chicago now stands had surrendered, upon a promise of protection to the lives of the garrison, by the English, but the savages

had disregarded the agreement which the English troops were not strong enough to enforce and the prisoners had been massacred. A still more fearful and hopeless peril lurked about the cabin door of every white settler of the West. Even death by the tomahawk and scalping knife seemed mercy itself compared to the atrocious tortures which all the tribes, but the Wyandots, were in the habit of inflicting upon their captives, and of which we have so fearful a picture in the blood curdling story of the capture and death of Colonel Crawford, a little earlier in our history. It may well have been that the expectation of such a fate, if they surrendered, nerved the hearts and arms of Major Croghan and his little garrison, to dare any fate but that, and to resolve to die, if need be, but never to be taken.

General William Henry Harrison, a wise and brave man, who, both before and afterward, signalized his courage and skill, was in command of the department at this time, with headquarters at Fort Seneca, or Seneca Town, as it was sometimes called, about nine miles south of Fort Stephenson. Several days before the British had invested Fort Meigs, General Harrison, with Major Croghan and some other officers, had examined



VIEW OF OIL DERRICKS.



FIRST RAILROAD IN NORTHWEST TERRITORY.
Erie & Kalamazoo Railway, opened for business between Adrian and Toledo in fall of 1836.
Now part of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway System.

the heights which surround Fort Stephenson and, as the hill on the opposite side of the river was found to be the most commanding eminence, the General had some thought of removing the fort to that place, and Major Croghan declared his readiness to undertake the work. But the General did not authorize him to do it as he believed that if the enemy intended to invade our territory again, they would do it before the removal could be completed. It was then finally concluded that the fort, which was calculated for a garrison of only 200 men, could not be defended against the heavy artillery of the enemy; and that if the British should approach it by water, which would cause a presumption that they had brought



AN AUTOMOBILE MOWER.

their heavy artillery, the fort must be abandoned and burned, provided a retreat could be effected with safety.

In the orders left with Major Croghan, it was stated, "Should the British troops approach you in force, with cannon, and you discover them in time to effect a retreat, you will do so immediately, destroying all the public stores. You must be aware that an attempt to retreat in the face of an Indian force would be vain. Against such an enemy your garrison would be safe, however great the number."

General Harrison had been for a short time at Upper Sandusky, several miles further south, hastening the assembling of a little army with which he hoped to take the aggressive, and was sorely disappointed by the slow rate at which his reinforcements could thread the paths of the new country. Three or four hundred dragoons were all he had when the news of Proctor's expedition reached him. A regiment from Kentucky was on its way but had not yet arrived. On the evening of the 29th of July General Harrison received word from General Clay, that the enemy had abandoned the siege of Fort Meigs and, as the Indians on that day had swarmed in the woods around his camp, he entertained no doubt but that an immediate attack was intended, either on Fort Stephenson or Fort Seneca. He therefore called a council of war, consisting of Generals McArthur, Cass, Ball and others, who were unanimously of the opinion that Fort Stephenson was untenable

against heavy artillery and that, as the enemy could bring with facility, any quantity of battering cannon against it, by which it must inevitably fall, and as the post contained nothing the loss of which would be felt, that the garrison should not be reinforced but withdrawn and the place destroyed. In pursuance of this decision the General immediately despatched the order to Major Croghan, directing him to abandon Fort Stephenson at once, set it on fire, and repair with his command to headquarters. This order was sent by a Mr. Conner and two Indians, who lost their



ALONG THE BANKS
Of the Sandusky River near Bucyrus, Crawford County.



SUMMER DAY SCENERY
On Sandusky River near Bucyrus, Crawford County.

way in the dark and did not reach Fort Stephenson until 11 o'clock the next day. When Major Croghan received it he was of the opinion that he could not then retreat with safety, as the Indians were hovering around the fort in considerable force. He called a council of his officers, a majority of whom coincided with him in the opinion that a retreat would be unsafe, and that the post could be maintained against the enemy, at least until further instructions could be received from headquarters.

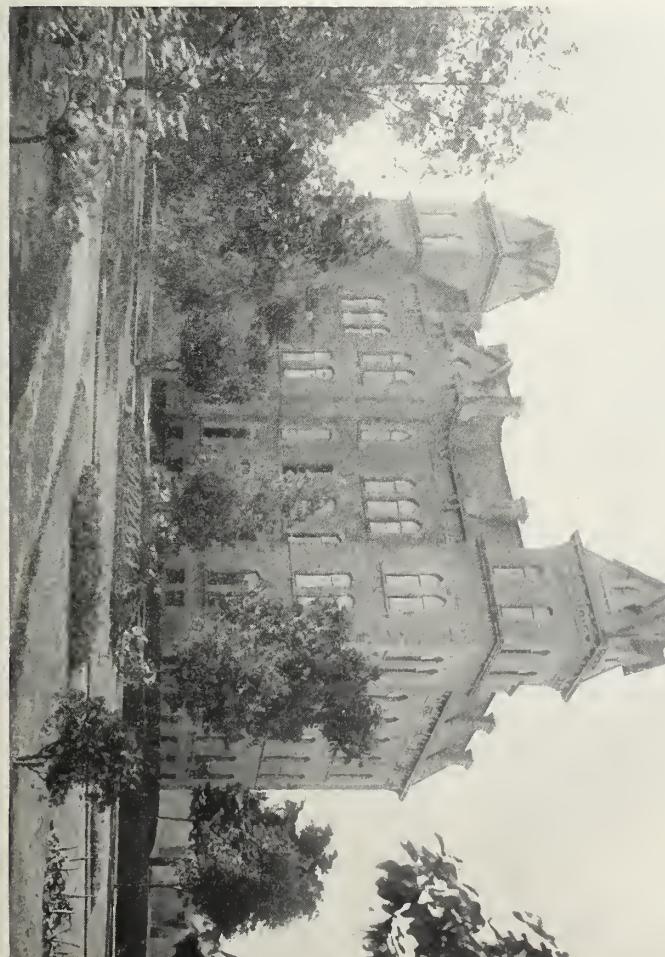
Such a command as Major Croghan had received, probably seemed to a young officer to imply a suspicion of his valor or his capacity and, stung, perhaps, by this view of it, Major Croghan sent back a reply which well nigh cost him his commission. He said: "Sir, I have just received yours of yesterday, 10 o'clock p.m., ordering me to destroy this place and make good my retreat, which was received too late to be carried into execution. We have determined to maintain this place, and by heavens we can." Major Croghan was at once relieved of the command, and ordered to General Harrison's headquarters in arrest, but when the General saw the man, and knew that his confidence was that of true courage and no mere vaporizing, he easily accepted the explanation that the terms of Croghan's reply had been worded with the expectation that the dispatch might fall into the enemy's hands, and that in that case he wished to impress them with the danger of an



FOURTH OF JULY CORN IN THE BLACK SWAMP

assault; and he sent the young hero back to resume his command just as the British entered the river.

A reconnoitering party, which had been sent from headquarters to the shore of the lake, about twenty miles from Fort Stephenson, discovered the approach of the enemy by water, on the evening of the 31st of July. They returned by the fort after 12 o'clock the next day, and had passed it but a few hours when the enemy made their appearance. The Indians showed themselves first on the hill, across the river, where they were



HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING, SANDUSKY.



SCENE ON LAKE ERIE.



A COUNTRY HOME ALONG THE PERRYSBURG PIKE.
In Wood County, near Bowling Green

saluted by a six-pounder, the only piece of artillery in the fort, which soon caused them to retire. In about half an hour the British gunboats came in sight, and the Indian forces displayed themselves in every direction, with a view to intercept the garrison, should a retreat be attempted. The six-pounder was fired a few times at the gunboat, and the fire was returned by the artillery of the enemy. A landing of their troops, with a five and a half-inch howitzer, was effected about a mile below the fort, and Major Chambers, accompanied by Dickson, was dispatched towards the fort with a flag, and was met, on the part of Major Croghan, by Ensign Shipp of the Sixteenth Regiment. After the usual ceremonies, Major Chambers observed that he was instructed by General Proctor to demand the surrender of the fort, as he was anxious to spare the effusion of human blood, which he could not do should he be under the necessity of reducing it, by the powerful force of artillery, regulars and Indians at his command. Ensign Shipp replied that the commandant of the fort and its garrison were determined to defend it to the last extremity, and that no force, however, great, could induce them to surrender, as they were resolved to maintain their post or to bury themselves in its ruins.

Dickson then said that their immense body of Indians could not be restrained from murdering the whole garrison, in case of success, and urged

them to surrender and prevent the dreadful massacre that would be caused by their resistance. Mr. Shipp replied that when the fort was taken there would be none to massacre, as it would not be given up while a man was able to resist. The enemy now opened their fire from their six-pounders in the gunboats and the howitzer on shore, which they continued through the night with but little intermission and very little effect. The forces of the enemy consisted of 500 regulars and about 800 Indians, commanded by Dickson, the whole being commanded by General Proctor in person. Teeunseh was stationed on the road to Fort Meigs, with a body of 2,000 Indians, expecting to intercept a reinforcement on that route. Major Croghan, through the evening occasionally fired his six-pounder; at the same time changing its place often to induce the belief that he had more than one piece. As it produced very little effect on the enemy, and he was desirous of saving his ammunition, he soon discontinued firing. The enemy had directed their fire against the northwest angle of the fort, which induced the commander to believe that an attempt to storm the works would be made at that point. In the night Captain Hunter was directed to secretly remove the six-pounder to a blockhouse, from which it would rake that angle. The embrasure was masked and the piece loaded with a double charge of slugs and grape shot.



VIEW ON AN OIL LEASE.

Early in the morning of August 2, the enemy opened fire from their howitzer and their six-pounders, which they had landed in the night and planted in a point of woods about 250 yards from the fort, which convinced Major Croghan that they would endeavor to make a breach and storm the works at that point. He therefore strengthened that place as much as possible, with bags of flour and sand, which was so effectual that the picketings in that place sustained no material injury. Late in the evening, when the smoke of the firing had completely enveloped the fort, the enemy proceeded to make the assault. Two feints were made toward the southern angle, where Captain Hunter's lines were formed, and at the same time a column of 350 men was discovered advancing through the smoke within twenty paces of the northwestern angle. A heavy galling fire was now opened upon the enemy from the fort, which threw them into some confusion. Colonel Short, who was at the head of the principal column, soon rallied his men and led them with great bravery to the brink of the ditch. After a momentary pause he leaped into the ditch, calling to his men to follow him, and in a few moments it was full. The masked port hole was now opened and the six-pounder, at a



GREEN PASTURE.



THE MODERN WAY OF MAKING HAY.

distance of thirty feet, poured such destruction among them that but few who had entered the ditch were fortunate enough to escape. Colonel Short, while ordering his men to cut down the pickets and give the Americans no quarter, fell mortally wounded, and hoisting his white handkerchief on the end of his sword, begged for that mercy which he had a moment before ordered to be denied to his enemy.

A precipitate and confused retreat was the immediate consequence of the encounter, although some of the officers attempted to rally their men. The other column, led by Colonel Warburton and Major Chambers, was also routed in confusion by a destructive fire from the line commanded by Captain Hunter. The whole of them fled into an adjoining wood, beyond the reach of our arms. During the assault the enemy kept up an incessant fire from their howitzer and five six-pounders. They left Colonel Short and twenty-five privates dead in the ditch. The number of prisoners taken was twenty-six, most of them badly wounded. The total loss of the British and Indians was 150. The loss of the garrison was one killed and seven slightly wounded. Samuel Thurman, the one man of the garrison who was killed, met his death through his desire to shoot a red-coat. He climbed to the top of the blockhouse and, while peering over, a six-pound ball from the enemy's cannon took off his head.

The assault lasted only about half an hour. The dark stormcloud that had been hovering over the West passed northward, a gentle breeze from the southwest bore the smoke of battle far away over the forest, toward Lake Erie, and in the lonely twilight of that memorable Sabbath evening the brave young Croghan addressed his gallant little band with eloquent words of praise and grateful thanksgiving. As the night and the silence deepened, and the groans of the wounded in the ditch fell upon his ears, his generous heart beat with sympathy. Buckets filled with water were let down by ropes from the outside of the pickets and, as the gates of the fort could not be opened with safety during the night, he made a communication with the ditch, by means of a trench, through which the wounded were borne into the little fortress and their necessities supplied.

All who were able, preferred, of course, to follow their defeated comrades, and many others were carried from the vicinity of the fort by the Indians, particularly their own killed and wounded. About 3 o'clock in the morning the whole British and Indian force commenced a disorderly



A POWER HOUSE IN THE OIL FIELD.

retreat. So great was their precipitation that they left a sailboat containing some clothing and a considerable quantity of military stores, and the next day seventy stands of arms and some braces of pistols were collected around the fort. Their hurry and confusion were caused by the apprehension of an attack by General Harrison, of whose position and force they had probably received an exaggerated account.

It was the intention of General Harrison, should the enemy succeed against Fort Stephenson, or should they turn his left and fall on Upper Sandusky, to leave his camp at Fort Seneca and fall back to the latter place. But by the firing on the evening of the 1st he discovered that the enemy had nothing but light artillery, which could make no impression on the fort, and he knew that an attempt to storm it, without making a breach, could be successfully repelled by the garrison. He therefore determined to wait for the arrival of 250 mounted volunteers, approaching by the way of Upper Sandusky, and then to march against the enemy and raise the siege if possible.



HARVESTING CELERY NEAR SANDUSKY.



GLACIAL EVIDENCES ON KELLEY'S ISLAND, LAKE ERIE.



AN OIL TANK FARM.

He sent scouts to ascertain the situation and force, but the woods were so infested with Indians that none of them could proceed near enough to the fort to make the necessary discoveries. About 9 o'clock in the evening Major Croghan had ascertained, from their collecting about their boats, that the enemy were preparing to embark and had immediately sent word to General Harrison, who, determined to wait no longer for the reinforcements, immediately set out with the dragoons for Fort Stephenson. The road by which he came follows an old Indian trail, meandering the river all the way until it approaches Fremont, where it passes through Spiegel Grove, and, winding around through the town, turns northwestward toward Fort Meigs and Maumee. It was known as the "Harrison trail" and, though crooked and sometimes almost impassable, was at least a guide through the Black Swamp, which travelers could follow without fear of losing their way.

General Harrison reached the fort early in the morning, having ordered Generals McArthur and Cass to follow him, with all the disposable infantry,

at that place. Finding that the enemy had fled entirely from the fort, so as not to be reached by him, and learning that Tecumseh was near Fort Meigs with 2,000 warriors, he sent the infantry back to Fort Seneca, lest Tecumseh should make an attack on that place. In his official report of this affair General Harrison observes that: "It will not be among the least of General Proctor's mortifications that he has been baffled by a youth who had just passed his twenty-first year. He is, however, a hero worthy of his gallant uncle, General George R. Clark."

"Too much praise," said Major Croghan, "can not be bestowed on the officers and privates under my command for their gallantry and good conduct during the siege." The brevet rank of Lieutenant-



OIL WELLS BEING PUMPED BY RODS FROM A POWER HOUSE.

Colonel was immediately conferred on Major Croghan by the President of the United States for his valorous conduct on this occasion, and his gallantry was further acknowledged by a joint resolution of Congress, approved in February, 1835, presenting to him a gold medal and a sword to each of the officers under his command.

Of the life of Colonel Croghan very little is known except that he was a native of Kentucky, having been born near Louisville in 1791. His father, Major Wm. Croghan, was a native of Ireland, and a gallant soldier of the Revolution. He received a good education, graduated at William and Mary College in Virginia, and soon afterwards began the study of law. In 1811 he volunteered as private, was appointed aide to General Harrison, and distinguished himself in the battle of Tippecanoe. After the declaration of war with Great Britain



VIEW OF AN OIL TANK FARM.



AN OIL REFINERY.

he was appointed Captain in the Seventeenth Regiment of Infantry and was made Major in 1813. He again distinguished himself at the memorable sieges of Fort Meigs, and in July, 1813, was placed in command of Fort Stephenson. He was made Inspector-General of the Army in 1825, and in that capacity served with General Taylor in Mexico in 1846-'47. He died in New Orleans in 1849.

The Fort Stephenson fight was typical of its period. It was, at once, part of the struggle for independence and a type of the desperate conflict of the frontiersman with savage hordes, with wild beasts and with the unsubdued wilderness itself.

Immediately associated with Colonel Croghan's victory are the frontier names of the pioneer history of the West—General Harrison, Commodore Perry, General Cass, General McArthur, Governor Meigs and a long list of other men, whose names were household words in the homes of the first settlers of this region, were all closely identified with the military events which hinged upon the brilliant victory which was gained here, and which decided the struggle for the vast and noble territory which is tributary to the Great Lakes of the Northwest.

After the War of 1812, Croghan's old cannon Betsy was sent to the Government Arsenal at Pittsburgh, and remained there until about 1851, when Mr. Bree J. Bartlett, then Mayor of Fremont, conceived the design of procuring the old gun as a relic, to be kept at the place it so greatly aided to defend. He sent a soldier who had helped use the gun in Fort Stephenson to Pittsburgh, to identify it by some peculiar mark

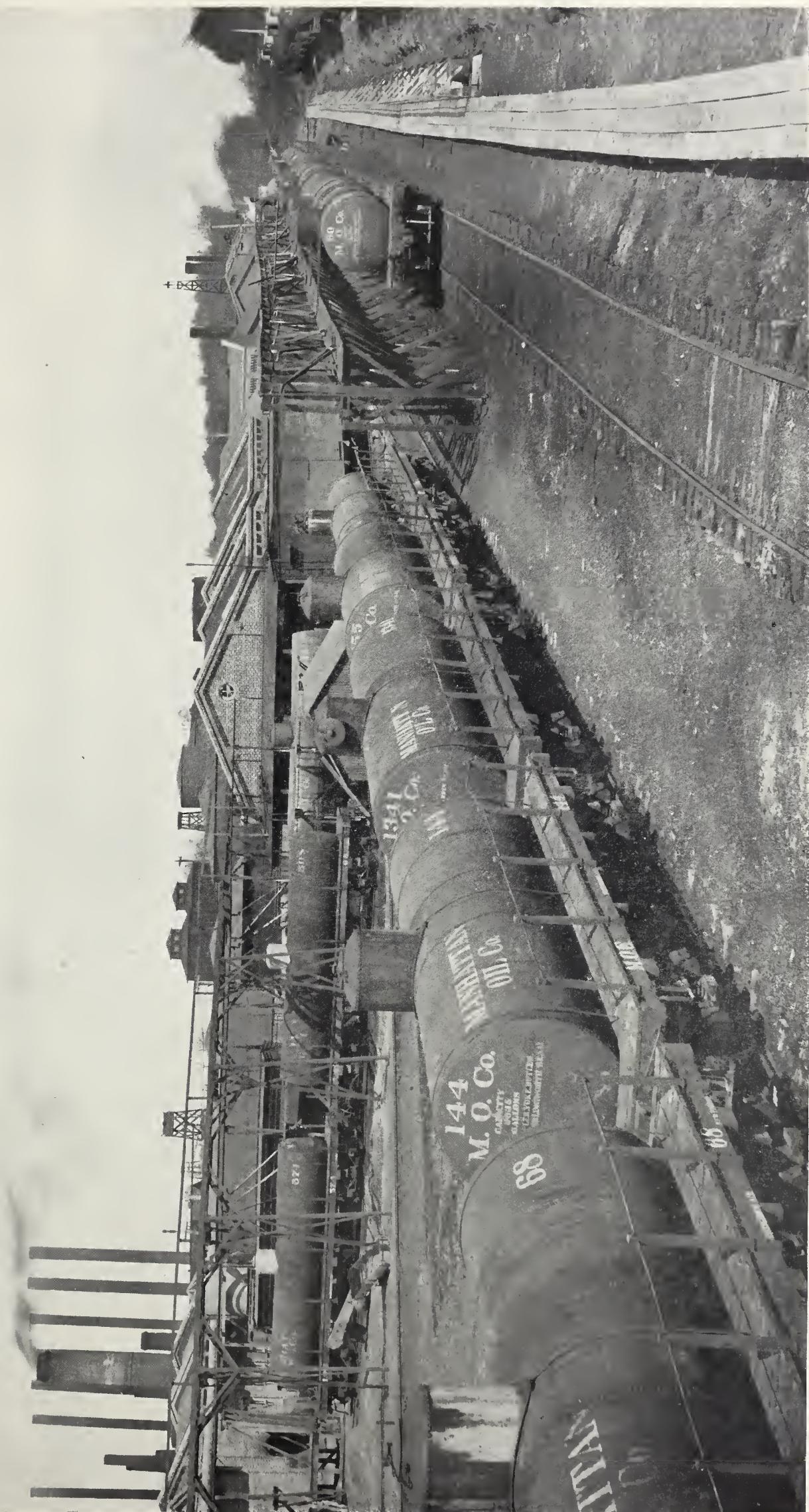
on the breech, and by persistent effort, finally succeeded in locating it and ordered it sent to Lower Sandusky. But there were then several Sanduskys and, by some mistake, the old cannon was sent to Sandusky City, where there never was a battle. But the Sandusky people wanted to keep the gun and a sharp controversy arose in regard to it. They, however, it is said, to secure the gun against seizure, buried it. But Mr. Bartlett, not to be foiled, employed a detective, who, finally learning where the gun was buried, and aided by others, went to Sandusky, uncovered the cannon and brought it back to its old resting place. The garrison, it is said, named the gun "Good Bess." In 1852, on August 2, at a celebration of Croghan's splendid victory here, Mr. Thomas L. Hawkins, a Methodist local preacher, who was also a poet, read a poem which was a salutation to the old six-pounder, in which he addressed her as "Betsey Croghan," a name by which the gun has ever since been known. In another poem on Colonel Croghan's victory at Fort Stephenson this poet calls the gun "Our Bess."

Historically the heart of the city of Fremont is Fort Stephenson Park, with its City Hall, its monument and its public library, while the historic Betsey Croghan and other disused cannons add a sterner touch to the scene.

THE BATTLE OF LAKE ERIE.—It was a fair morning in September, a gentle breeze was blowing down the lake, rippling the water. A little American fleet lay peacefully at anchor in the beautiful island-locked bay of South Bass Island, its brave young commander and sturdy men anxiously waiting for the



STANDARD OIL CO.'S BUILDING, LIMA.



OIL LOADING STATION AT OIL REFINERY, WELKER.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



IN THE CLOVER FIELD.

sign of a coming hostile sail. A few days before, with the Union Jack vauntingly flying, they had passed the British forts at Malden, up at the head of the lake, behind which, under cover, lay the British fleet. The challenge to come out and fight in open water had been unheeded, and Perry and his men were waiting for something to turn up.

The sun was just coming up in a cloudless sky behind the slopes of the islands, when a messenger knocked at the commander's cabin door. The British fleet was in sight, coming down the lake. "The day has come at last!" exclaimed Lieutenant Elliott, as he climbed up the side of the flagship Lawrence to get his commander's order. "The one we have long been wishing for," responded Perry. Quickly the plan of action was decided. Hurred orders were given. On the ship Lawrence, up from the halyards, rose the great blue flag, bearing to the breeze the dying words of the brave James Lawrence: "Don't give up the ship" —words that so soon were to be the sign by which a great battle was to be won and the fame of an American boy made immortal.

What a little fleet it was to win so great a victory! Measured by modern standards of engineering warfare but a mere handful of small sailing vessels, rudely constructed; comprising, all told,

but nine boats, some carrying but one or two guns, and all only fifty-four. The most effective of these were as short in range as a pistol. One warship of Dewey's fleet could have torn them all to shreds. The crews, numbering, all told, only about 400, were made up almost entirely of untried sailors and landsmen. But they were brave men, stirred with the spirit of patriots, and fired by love of country. Their commanders were all young officers, few of whom had seen actual service, but they felt that their nation's honor was in their keeping. How true it is that a righteous cause is half the victory already won.

The British fleet, on the other hand, was commanded by officers of experience in naval warfare. Commodore Barelay had seen service with the great Nelson in ocean warfare, and lost an arm in one of his battles on the Nile. His fleet comprised six vessels, three less than Perry's in number, but carrying sixty-four guns of longer range and large calibre. Seamen trained to the service stood behind them and before the masts. Out from the little bay sailed Perry and his fleet, into the open water to the westward. The British fleet was slowly, but defiantly, coming down the lake upon them. The breeze dying away delayed the encounter. Close action was what young Perry wanted, and so it proved also wished his opponent, the brave Captain Barelay.

Not long had they to wait. Swinging hither and thither, their sail hanging lifeless, the little fleet of American vessels was indeed at the mercy of the wind—too far away to get into action,



JUDGE BURKET'S RESIDENCE, FINDLAY.

they could not come up to help the Lawrence, on which Perry had led, and was soon to be under the British fire. At a quarter before twelve the British commander opened fire by his flagship, the Detroit. A gun from the Lawrence replied, but the shot fell into the water. It had carried scarcely two-thirds the way of its mark. Another shot from the British tore through the Lawrence and the brave Lieutenant Yarnell staggered bleeding, but rose to take his place again defiantly at the guns. Under such a fire, now joined in by the other British ships, stood the dauntless Perry and his determined crew, until the Lawrence was torn and riddled, and stripped of sail and mast, and the dead and wounded covered the decks and crowded the hatchways.

It was a terrible suspense! With the rest of the American fleet so far away to help, waiting a favorable breeze to bring them up to the ill-fated Lawrence fighting solitary and alone. There was no thought, however, of surrender. All Perry was seeking was a position where he could fight back.



OIL DERRICKS IN SUBURBS OF LIMA.

The Lawrence had ceased firing. "It is wasting powder and shot," exclaimed its commander. But God did not desert him—dark though it looked. Soon the Lawrence drifted in among the British boats—every brace and bow line shot away, and not a sail left to work. But her carronades were within range of the enemy's boats, and their shot began to tell. Down came the topmast of one of the English brigs. With seven guns that Perry found he could use, her motto flag still flying, the Lawrence stood her ground with thirty-two English guns concentrated upon her. It was a terrible ordeal but the men on the Lawrence kept at it, as if to fight was the only thing to do, no matter what their fate.

Perry realized that to surrender the Lawrence would be a death blow to all chance of victory, and held on. His men realized it as well as he. English shot went clear through the Lawrence; man after man at the guns was torn to pieces. Soon the brave Lieutenant Brooks fell. Again and again was the relentless Yarnell wounded, only to leave his post for the surgeon below, after the repeated order of his commander, only to return again. Four times he was wounded. How fortunate it was that in this



TANK FARM NEAR LIMA.
Each Tank Has a Capacity of 35,000 Barrels.

about him. This suddenly conceived, and as suddenly executed act of Perry, marked the supreme moment in the great battle. It turned the tide of victory. The lowering of the motto from the Lawrence had, as it were, taken the enemy by surprise; the firing of their ships for the moment ceased. They looked only for the surrender flag to be hoisted. Once on board the Niagara, the motto flag, "Don't give up the ship," went swiftly up its halyards, and fluttered in the breeze as defiantly as a few moments before it had waved above the dead and dying on the decks of the Lawrence. Cheer after cheer went up from every American boat; the breeze seemed to catch the inspiration, and on, now swept the boats, the valiant Perry leading with the Niagara, his new flagship, right in among the British vessels. The battle raged fierce and hot on every ship. "Order close action!" commanded Perry, and the brave Elliott obeyed. "We're all right now," cried an old battle-scarred tar, as he saw Perry take command of the Niagara. Even the shattered ship Lawrence, almost deserted, had caught the spirit of victory. Up



A NITRO-GLYCERINE FACTORY.

terrible encounter of the Lawrence, Perry's life was spared. The dying words of Brooks were prophetic: "If Perry's life is saved he'll win us out of this." In that swift, single-handed engagement of the Lawrence with the entire British fleet, every American officer save Perry was wounded or killed, and three-fourths of the crew.

In the two hours of awful suspense and terrible conflict, a slight breeze had sprung up and the other vessels of Perry's fleet began to move slowly toward the line of battle. Unable to shift his own ship, now completely disabled and riddled, Perry seized upon a new plan. It came like an inspiration as he looked out towards his now slowly moving boats, still too far away. He ordered the little yawl boat manned. Two men who were helping the surgeon care for the wounded and dying below had to be called, so shattered was his force on deck, and leaving the brave Yarnell in command he ordered down the motto flag, wrapped it about his arm, and was a moment later being rowed away to the Niagara, the shot flying about his little craft and cutting the water all



PULLING CASING OF AN OIL WELL.



BURNING OIL TANK.

to the masthead had Yarnell hoisted the Stars and Stripes—her colors were at the peak. “Don’t give up the ship,” rang in the ears of the brave Yankee seamen, and they fought with a desperate valor, daring and dash that fairly stunned the Red Coats. Their fire was swift, sure and terrible. Vessel after vessel of the British was in turn attacked, riddled, stripped of her masts and sail, and left helpless.

We all recall the words of Dewey as he gave the quiet command to fire at Manila. So Perry, nearly a century before, with like coolness, standing on the forward deck of a mere toy boat compared with Dewey’s great Olympia, said: “Have you the range there, Judson?” “You may fire.”

The final encounter was soon over.

“Cease firing,” came the order from Perry, as the smoke, clearing away, revealed a British officer coming to the bulwarks of his disabled vessel, waving a white flag—that blessed harbinger of peace.

“Call away a boat,” he said, “and put me on board the Lawrence. I will receive the surrender there.”

Wounded men crawled to the ports to greet their victorious commander, and tears filled his eyes as he stepped upon the deck of his own vessel baptised in the blood of his countrymen. When British officer after officer of the defeated fleet

came forward to offer his sword, the hero of Erie, in quiet recognition, said: “I request that you keep your sword. It has been bravely used and worn.” When the count was taken after the battle it was found that twenty-two men had been killed and sixty-one wounded on the



BURNING OIL TANK, NEAR LIMA.



“WELL SHOOTERS.”

Starting Out With Their Nitro-Glycerine Wagons to “Shoot” an Oil Well

flagship Lawrence; two killed and twenty-five wounded on the Niagara; on the Scorpion two killed, and one on the Arion; three wounded on the Caledonia, Somers and Trippe, making a total loss for the American fleet of twenty-seven killed and ninety-six wounded. Twice had the British

officer in command, Commodore Barclay, been wounded, and rendered helpless by injury to the only arm he had. The dead sailors of both fleets, each wrapped in a sailor’s shroud of a hammock with a round shot at his heels were buried in the waters of Lake Erie. The next day the six dead officers—Midshipmen Henry Laub and John Clark and Lieutenant Brooks of the American fleet, and Captain Finniss, Lieutenant Stokes and Lieutenant Garland of the British fleet—were placed in rudely constructed coffins and following a solemn procession of boats, rowing minute strokes to the sound of the solemn dirge of the band, were conveyed to the shore of Put-in Bay Island for burial. The officers and surviving crews of both fleets followed and about the open grave stood the victorious Perry, supporting upon his arm the torn and shattered form of the brave Commodore Barclay.



AMONG THE OIL WELLS ON A PRIVATE LEASE.



OIL TANK FIRE NEAR LIMA

The Battle of Lake Erie marked a turning point in the life of the young and struggling republic. It settled forever its supremacy upon the lakes that separate it from British territory. It did more than that. It opened the way for the victorious march of General Harrison and his army into the enemy's territory to the north, and made possible the settlement of the vast territory of the West and its development into the sisterhood of states that now crown our flag with their cluster of forty-five stars. That battle, though small both in numbers and instruments of warfare, was yet one of the great sea battles of the world—great because fought with a bravery and daring that startled the world—led by a commander who showed himself to be one of the world's heroes, and great because stupendous and far-reaching in its results.



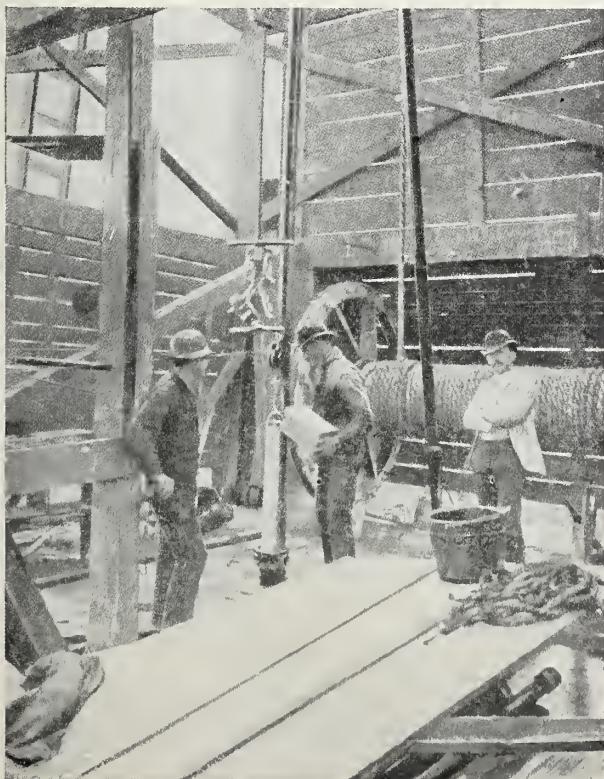
AN ELEVATED PIPE LINE,
Used to Convey Steam for Power to Each Well From Main Boiler House.

cut the many inscriptions, figures and devices as seen upon the rock in illustration on page 35. These rude picture inscriptions describe some thrilling and interesting stories of the occupation of that section of Ohio by the Eries—of the coming of the Wyandots—of the final triumph of the Iroquois. Some of the caricatures, as interpreted by Shingvauk, a learned Indian, represent some chief and warrior of distinction, his pipe that he is smoking after a fast; ornaments of leather, worn by distinguished warriors and chiefs; feather ornaments; symbols denoting a fast of ten days, and that he fasted the whole time, except at sunset; a journey in snow shoes; war clubs; a road or trail, and of serpents who beset his path. It is the best sculptured inscription known to have been left by the Indians in this State.

THE OLD INDIAN MILL is located in a picturesque spot on the left bank of the Sandusky River, about two and a half miles northwest of Upper Sandusky. The original mill was situated a few rods above the site of the present one, and it was built by John Garrett for the benefit of the Wyandot Indians about the year 1825, and at the special instance of the United States Government. John Garrett was a white man, but his wife was a Wyandot Indian woman. The pioneer settlers availed themselves of the advantage of this grist mill from the very beginning, and remote settlements continued to be supplied with flour and meal until after the Wyandots departed, in 1843, for

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES.

INDIAN ROCK, or Inscription Rock, is located on Kelley's Island, Lake Erie, in Erie County. The rock is 32 feet greatest length and 21 feet greatest breadth, and 11 feet high above the water in which it sets. The rock is of the same stratification as the island, from which it has been separated by lake action. The top presents a smooth and polished surface, and upon this are



FILLING A TORPEDO WITH NITRO-GLYCERINE



DRILLERS AND PUMPERS OFF TOWER.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



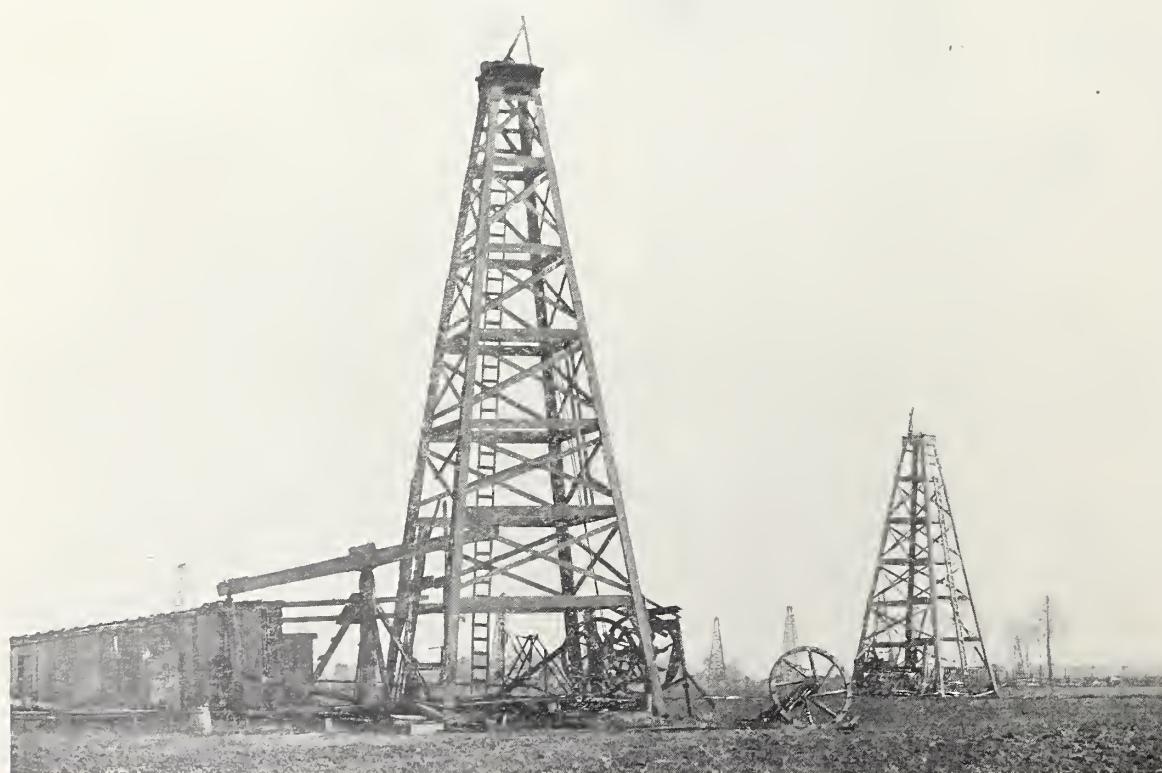
SOLAR REFINERY, NEAR LIMA, BUILT IN 1887 BY STANDARD OIL COMPANY.

their far western home in Kansas. The red mill continues to rumble along at its work to the same old tune it hummed while working for the red man seventy years ago. Its original patrons and operatives are all gone to the Great Beyond, and it is hoped

that the old Indian Mill and its companion piece, the old Mission Church, may be preserved and continue to increase with the flight of increasing years.

MISSION ISLAND, MAUMEE RIVER.—The first Presbyterian Mission was established on the bank of the Maumee, ten miles above Ft. Meigs, about 1821 or 1822. The society bought a large tract of land, including what is known as Mission Island, which contains about 300 acres. The first principal of the school established here was Rev. Isaac Van Tassel. This school was maintained under great difficulties, as the white men tried to prevent the Indians from sending their children to school. The Indians received secular education readily, but did not so readily receive religious instruction.

INDIAN ELM, MAUMEE.—This tree is opposite Ft. Meigs, and from its top Indian sharpshooters harassed the soldiers in the fort. One obnoxious buck, after hitting several soldiers, and while tantalizing the others and daring them to hit him, was shot by one of the men in the fort and fell headlong to the ground. The tree was not afterwards used as a hiding place for Indian marks-men.



IN THE OHIO OIL FIELDS.



SOLAR REFINERY AT LIMA. LOADING RACKS IN FOREGROUND.

THE INDIAN JAIL at Upper Sandusky was erected by the Wyandot Indians about the time the government established an Indian Agency. There were two stories in this rude jail. The first story's ceiling was about eight feet high and had one small window in south end. It had two doors, the outer door made of heavy plank batten, and inner door an iron grated one. The outer door was so arranged that it could be opened so a person could converse with the prisoners from the outside. Several Indians were confined in this jail for murder. They were given a trial under Indian laws, convicted and shot and their remains are in the Indian graveyard near the site of the old Indian jail. Nothing now remains of the old jail.

REV. J. B. FINLEY.—A prominent itinerant Methodist minister among the Indians. He labored in Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York. He wrote an "Account of the Wyandot Mission," "Life Among the Indians," and several other works.

REV. MONOCUE.—He was a man of great eloquence and of great service to his tribe—the Wyandots—as a local preacher. Rev. J. B. Finley speaks of him as "my faithful Indian friend and brother."

BETWEEN-THE-LOGS.—Born about 1780 of Seneca and Wyandot stock. He was above medium stature. He fought with the Indians when General Wayne was defeated, and was afterwards made chief of his tribe. Possessing a good memory, he was made chief speaker of the nation. As head chief of the Wyandots,



RESERVOIR AT BUCKEYE PIPE LINE CO.'S STATION, CYGNET.



NEEDLES EYE, GIBRALTER, PUT-IN BAY

he refused to fight against the Americans, and, leaving the council, united himself with the American cause. He went to Canada in company with General Harrison at the time of his invasion. Between-the-Logs was the first convert under Stewart, the colored missionary. He often attended the annual Ohio conference, and frequently made eloquent addresses.

TECUMSEH, "The Meteor," was one of the most heroic characters in Indian history. He was the son of an Indian chief of the Shawanoes tribe, and born about 1770, in a hut constructed of round saplings, chinked with sticks and clay, along the Great Miami River, near Piqua, then a pleasant plateau of land, with a field of corn, not subject to overflow. It is yet to this day, as seen in illustration on another page, a corn field. Tecumseh was the youngest of triplets, which were very rare among Indians, and the worthy son of a warrior race. The period of the Revolution was during his youth, and he spent his boyhood days among the coming and going of many war parties, and the attacks of the soldiers upon his people's villages. Reared among such surroundings, hearing the beat of war drums from his earliest infancy, it is no wonder that he imbibed the military spirit and agreed with Thayendanega, "that he liked the music of the harp, and the organ still better, but he liked the fife and drum best of all because they made his heart beat quick." At 17 years of age he distinguished himself in an attack upon some boats on the Ohio River. One of the men taken prisoner in this battle was burned. The sight of this burning was abhorrent to Tecumseh, and he persuaded the party not to burn any more prisoners. He was prominent in the battles at Ft. Recovery and at Fallen Timbers. He was elected chief of his tribe in 1795. He lived near Piqua till 30 years of age, and then moved to the White River, in Indiana. He aided materially in forming confederacies among the different tribes against the Americans. He was the chief speaker in the council held at Vincennes, Indiana, in which General William Henry Harrison represented the Americans. At this council, Tecumseh contended that he would resist every invasion of land, unless made by all the tribes. He said he was opposed to any further intrusion of the whites upon the Indian lands. The council adjourned in disorder, and each side prepared for war. During the War of 1812 he was appointed brigadier-general in the service of the English king. He distinguished himself at the battle of Ft. Meigs. He fell at the battle of the Thames, but the Indians would never reveal how he met his death. Tecumseh's name, unlike that of other aborigines, has been nearly preserved by the interpreters as spoken by the Shawanoes. His name has been variously translated in former times as "Panther-Lying-in-Wait," "Crouching-Lion" and "Shooting-Star." It was the totemic emblem of a Shawnee clan, and the members of this clan, to which Tecumseh, or Tecumtha, belonged, were consequently classed as the descendants of a raven or raven-footed progenitor. The quick motion of a "meteor" or "shooting-star" was evidently likened to that of a lion or wildcat springing upon its prey, and the yellow color of both may have made the comparison more effective. All over America the natives supposed these celestial bodies to be the souls of the dead, and as they travel mainly in a westerly direction, they are believed to return to their western abode. In the west lies the Pacific ocean; therefore, the tribes west of the Rocky Mountains think the souls are returning to that great aquatic world. To all primitive people the home of the deceased lies in the west, for there set the celestial bodies which represent the souls of the departed ones. Colonel W. S. Hatch, of Cincinnati, in the war of 1812, gives this description of Tecumseh as last seen by him: "The personal appearance of this remarkable Indian was uncommonly fine. His height was about five feet nine inches, judging him by

his own height, when standing close to him. His face, oval rather than angular; his nose handsome and straight; his mouth, beautifully formed like that of Napoleon I, as represented in his portraits; his eyes clear transparent hazel, with a mild, pleasant expression, when in repose or in conversation; but when excited in his orations, or by the enthusiasm of conflict, or when in anger, they appeared like balls of fire; his teeth, beautifully white, and his complexion more of a light brown or tan than red; his whole tribe, as well as their kindred, the Ottowas, had light complexions; his hands and arms were finely formed; his limbs straight; he always stood very erect, and walked with a brisk, elastic, vigorous step; invariably dressed in Indian-tanned buckskin; a perfectly well-fitted hunting frock, descending to the knee, was over his underclothes of the same material; the usual paint and finish of leather fringe about the neck; a belt of the same material, in which were his side arms—an elegant silver-mounted tomahawk, and knife in a strong leather case—short pantaloons, connected with neatly fitting leggings and moccasins, with a mantle of the same material thrown over his left shoulder, used as a blanket in camp and as a protection in storms." He was an able eloquent orator and a fearless warrior. He was possessed of a silent, stern nature, and of a commanding appearance. He was naturally a diplomat. All things considered, he was one of the greatest men the Indian race ever produced.

WYANDOT MISSION CHURCH.—The first Mission Church among the Wyandots was established at Upper Sandusky, by the Methodists. John Stewart, a mulatto, and a member of the Methodist Church, began preaching to the Indians here about 1816. But the first regular established Mission was organized by Rev. James Finley, who formed a church and established a school about 1824.

ROCHE DE BOEUF.—This rock is located in the Maumee River, a short distance from the present site of Waterville. The legend in connection with this rock, as told by Peter Manor, the Indian scout, is as follows: "While the Ottawa Indians were encamped here, one of their children, while playing on Roche de Boeuf, fell over the precipice into the river and was instantly killed. The dusky husband, on being informed of the fate of his prospective successor, at once sent the mother in search of her papoose, by pushing her over the rocky sides into the shallow waters of the Maumee. Her next of kin, according to Indian law, executed the murdering husband, and was, in turn, executed in the same manner, until the frantic passions were checked by the arrival of the principal chiefs of the tribe. This outburst cost the tribe nearly two-thirds of its members."

INDIAN CHARACTERISTICS AND CUSTOMS.—Intemperance to a great extent prevailed among the Indians; there was however, as wide a contrast in this respect as with the whites, and some of the more virtuous refused to associate with the others. This class also cultivated their little farms with a degree of taste and judgment; some of these could cook a comfortable meal, and I have eaten both butter and a kind of cheese made by them. Many of them were quite ingenious and natural mechanics, with a considerable knowledge of and an inclination to use tools. One chief had an assortment of carpenters' tools, which he kept in neat order. He made plows, harrows, wagons, bedsteads, tables, bureaus, etc. He was frank, liberal and conscientious. On my asking him who taught him the use of tools, he replied, "No one;" then pointing up to the sky, he said, "The Great Spirit taught me."

County Sketches.



ALLEN COUNTY COURT HOUSE, LIMA.

ALLEN COUNTY.—Allen, named in honor of Colonel Allen, a hero of the war of 1812, was formed April 1, 1820, and was temporarily attached to Mercer County for judicial purposes. Many of the original settlers came from Pennsylvania, and a large part of those settling in the southern part were Germans. The western part of the county is flat and has the usual features of the "Black Swamp." The eastern part is gravelly ridges. The area of Allen is about 440 square miles. The first point within the present limits of the county occupied by the whites was at Fort Amanda, erected in 1812 by Colonel Poogue, of General Harrison's army. Here boats were built for use on the Maumee and the Auglaize, the latter being in early days navigable for good sized boats.

Lima, the county seat, was surveyed in 1831 by Captain James W. Riley. The town was named by Hon. Patrick G. Goode, and in August, 1831, the first public sale of lots was held. Lima became a thriving town, but it was not until 1885 that it received an impetus which has made it the center of one of the greatest oil fields in the world. While boring for gas, oil was struck, and now in Lima and Allen County there are hundreds of producing wells, and the "Lima field" has enlarged until it includes adjacent counties as far north as Lucas. The

city is a Standard Oil Company center, and the place one of the most important in its world-wide operations. From it is directed the work of drilling and pumping the greasy fluid in Haneock, Wood, Seneca, Wyandot, Hardin, Auglaize, Mercer, Van Wert, Putnam and additional territory in other counties. From this industry Lima, and the entire region, has been enriched beyond all expectations, and this prosperity has been diffused all over Northwestern Ohio, even into regions where oil is not directly produced. The "Black Swamp" has been, in a large measure, redeemed, and instead of a sparsely settled, malaria infected region, an increasing population lives in the enjoyment of health and plenty. In 1900 the population of Allen County was 49,976: Lima, 21,273; Delphos, 4,517; Bluffton, 1,783; Spencerville, 1,874; Beaver Dam, 477.

HURON COUNTY.—Huron, named from the Huron tribe of Indians, was erected by the act of February 7, 1809, and organized by the act of January 31, 1815. It was attached to Geauga, pending organization. It was mainly constituted from the "Firelands" of the

Connecticut Western Reserve. The surface of the land is mostly level, some parts being slightly undulating. The soil is mostly sandy, mixed with clay, forming a loam. In the northwest part are some prairies, and in the northern part are the sand ridges, which vary in width from a few rods to more than a mile. The present area of the county is about 450 square miles. The products include the usual variety of Northeastern Ohio. Norwalk, the county seat, was named from Norwalk, Connecticut. The site of the town was first visited in October, 1815, by Hon. Elisha Whittlesey and Platt Benedict. The next year the town was laid out by Almon Ruggles. In 1818 the place was made the county seat, and the population was 109. Up to 1852, the



STREET SCENE AT LIMA, ALLEN COUNTY.

beginning of the era of railroads, Norwalk was an academy town, the seat of the famous Norwalk Academy. Since then the town had developed into a busy growing city along all the lines of progress. The county has also become thickly settled with numerous thriving towns and villages, all of them seeming to prosper. The population of Huron County in 1900 was 32,330; Norwalk, 7,074; Bellevue, 4,110; Greenwich, 849; Chieago Junction, 2,348; Plymouth, 1,154; New London, 1,180; Monroeville, 1,211.

VAN WERT COUNTY.—Van Wert, named in honor of Private Isaac Van Wert, one of the three captors of Major Andre, was formed April 1, 1820. The surface is level and the top soil loam, with the sub-soil blue marl, and very deep, and of such tenacity that water will not sink through it. Until the land had been drained the crops were very poor, owing to the water standing upon the sub-soil. Captain James Riley was the first white man to settle in Van Wert County, who, in 1821, settled on the St. Mary's River. He also laid out the town of Willshire. Van Wert, the county seat, was laid out in 1837 by James W. Riley, upon the site of an old Indian town, where the warriors left their families while they themselves went on the warpath. Like the other counties of this section of the State, Van Wert was slowly reclaimed from the unbroken wilderness which the first comers found. In addition to the usual privations of pioneer life, the Asiatic cholera came and swept away hundreds of people. At Venedocia, in the southeastern part of the county, is a large settlement of Welsh people who have prospered wonderfully. The village contains only 199 inhabitants, but one religious denomination has erected a church edifice costing \$22,000. The entire history of the county has been one of slow, steady and sure development of a remarkably rich agricultural region. The town of Van Wert is built upon a sand ridge, which extends eastward to Delphos, and further. This ridge is composed of sand and gravel, and slopes to the northward. Westward from Van Wert it extends to near Ft. Wayne. The theory is advanced that this was once the shore of Lake Erie, as gravel, smooth round stones and shells all bear evidence of having been deposited on the ridge by water. Van Wert county in 1900 had 30,394 inhabitants: Van Wert, 6,422; Ohio City, 862; Convoy, 690; Middleport, 604; Willshire, 560.



VAN WERT COUNTY COURT HOUSE, VAN WERT.

PUTNAM COUNTY.—Putnam, named in honor of General Israel Putnam, the famous Revolutionary hero, was formed in 1820, and was attached to Williams County for judicial purposes until 1834, when it was fully organized as a separate county. In area it contains about 510 square miles, generally level, and much of the land originally swampy, but now drained and wonderfully

fertile. A large proportion of the population originally came from Eastern Ohio and Pennsylvania, while in Ottawa, Greensburg, Riley, Jennings and Monterey Townships many thrifty German Catholic farmers have located. In the southwestern part of the county is the site of old Fort Jennings. Two ancient Indian villages were located in this section, near the site of the present town of Ottawa. Kalida, the first county seat, was made the seat of justice in 1834, and was named from a Greek word meaning beautiful. As late as 1846 the county was almost entirely forest and water. The work of transforming these features into one of the most productive and beautiful sections of the State has been largely



MAIN STREET LOOKING EAST FROM JEFFERSON STREET, VAN WERT, VAN WERT COUNTY.



THE BLANCHARD RIVER NEAR FINDLAY.

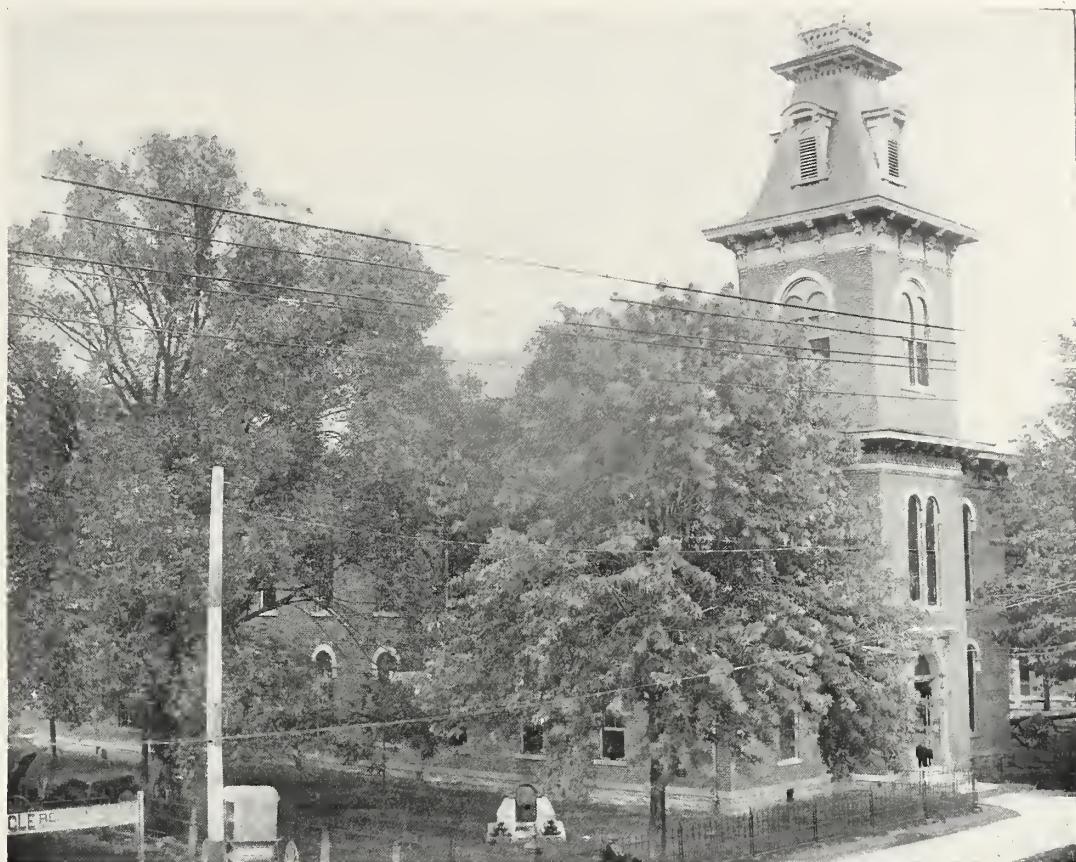
accomplished within the last 25 years. The construction of the ditches necessary to the drainage of the land and the determining of the apportionment of the cost of such improvements upon the property benefited, has been a task of no small magnitude. County commissioners and surveyors are still (in 1901) engaged in making plans and surveys for the construction and repairing of these drains. In 1866 the court house at Kalida was destroyed by fire, and by the vote of the people of the county, the seat of justice was removed to Ottawa, which at once commenced a steady and substantial growth. Glandorf, a German community situated a short distance west of Ottawa, has one of the most magnificent Catholic churches in Western Ohio. Putnam County has for some years furnished the timber for staves, spokes and other wooden products, and scores of mills and factories have been at work cutting up the trees of the immense forests. The Buckeye Stave Company, with a capital of \$1,000,000, has its main offices at Leipsie, in this county. A peculiar kind of clay, out of which roofing tiles are made, has also been discovered and is being utilized. The population in Putnam County in 1900 was 32,525; Ottawa, 2,322; Glandorf, 749; Continental, 1,104; Leipsie, 1,726; Columbus Grove, 1,935; Kalida, 622.

PIONEER DAYS IN PUTNAM COUNTY.—The first settler in the county was David Murphy. He came down the Blanchard from Fort Findlay in a canoe, in 1824, with his family; went up the Auglaize three miles and settled on the bayou. Erected a cabin of poles; ran out of provisions; none nearer than Fort Findlay; out also of rifle balls; recollected where he had shot a ball into a tree; hunted the tree, cut out the ball, recast it, and seeing a bear on the limb of a tree, took aim at the bear—a trying moment—killed the bear.

H. S. Knapp became at an early day editor of the Kalida

Venture. Went one Sunday to a camp meeting at Columbus Grove, in a wagon, with his wife. They were newly married. Started to return together on horseback and got dumped into a mud hole. Knapp tried to pull his wife out, but failed. Backed his horse, wife caught horse's tail and was pulled out. The *Venture* appeared next morning with editorials short and crabbed. The opposition papers denounced his newspaper as the "Kalida Vulture." Knapp lived to write the history of the Maumee Valley, and dedicated it to "Rutherford B. Hayes, late Governor of Ohio and President of the United States." The *Venture* was established in 1841 by James Mackenzie; in the course of years lost its unique, enterprising name, and is now the Putnam County *Sentinel*.

East from the barn of William Turner, in Pleasant Township, is a low piece of bottom land some twenty rods wide. In 1845 there was an upheaval of the earth; a ridge formed across from bank to bank, some four feet high and about thirty wide, which dammed up a creek there; so that Mr. Turner was obliged to cut a channel through it to let off the accumulated waters. The cause of this no one knows. For many years after the organization of the county a session of the court was deemed a fit time for a spree, a general good time; so it was common to hold court all day, and have a jolly good time during the entire term of the court. Wheat, corn, potatoes and pork were raised with very little trouble, and, when properly taken care of, want was never known. Game was plenty. Coon and deer skins, with the money brought by emigrants, formed all the currency. Hand mills for grinding corn were almost a household necessity, and the meal from



PUTNAM COUNTY COURT HOUSE, OTTAWA.



STREET SCENE AT OTTAWA, PUTNAM COUNTY.

one ear, made into bread, was deemed ample for one meal for one person. On calling for a dinner, persons sometimes had to wait until the corn was shelled, ground and baked.

Hiram Sarber, born in Franklin County in 1817, settled one mile below Kalida in 1833. When corn began to ear, along came the coons and squirrels, and it seemed as though they would get it all. Father said to me: "Hiram, there is the little gun and dog. I want you to watch the coons and squirrels out in the corn field." I thought this would be fun, but I found out better in a few days. I shot squirrels by day and hunted coons by night. The dog would lay by daytime; when night came he was ready for a hunt, when I would open the door and say, "Go! hunt them," and wait until he barked. He would not kill them until I came. At last I got so tired of this that I tied him up to get some sleep. If I let him loose, he would soon find one, and then bark until father would call out, "Hiram! do you hear the dog?" and then I would have to get up and go; for I knew better than to disobey him. The Indians were plenty here, and we had considerable sport with them shooting at a mark, hopping and running foot races. The first winter and spring, if we boys wanted young company we had to go twelve miles to a settlement, where there were about a dozen boys and girls that attended meeting, and a singing at a log school house.

The first road in the county was the one cut through from Fort Recovery to Defiance by Anthony Wayne, in 1794. This passed along the west side of the river, and has ever since, with few variations, been used as a public road. At the intersection of Jennings Creek with the Auglaize, on this road, Colonel Jennings erected, in 1812, a stockade for the protection of supplies between Fort Recovery and Fort Defiance; and on this road the first mail was established, and the mail carried between Piqua and Defiance once a week, on horseback, supplying between the termini the offices of Hardin, Wapakoneta and Sugar Grove (this was at the house of Sebastian Sroufe, near Hoover's Mills), the only post-



PAULDING COUNTY COURT HOUSE, PAULDING.

office in the county. The mail was carried by a boy, C. C. Marshall, from September, 1829, to December 31, 1831. This boy was afterward mayor of Delphos, superintendent of the Miami and Erie Canal, and a member of both houses of the Legislature.

John Wileox, born in Madison County in 1825; his parents settled in Perry Township in 1827. One night when the father was absent and the pioneer wife alone with her two babes in the rude cabin, "the rains descended and the floods came;" the mother took her babes, her axe, and pot of fire (matches then being unknown), and started for higher ground, which she reached after wading through water for a quarter of a mile, and built a fire where the first orchard was planted in the subsequent year, the trees being purchased from John Chapman—"Johnny Appleseed"—who was peddling in a boat from his nursery near Fort Findlay. The rise of the waters again compelled her to seek higher ground; and here she was found later in the day by Demit Maekeral, who had come to her relief in a canoe.

William Galbraith.—Ottawa Indians were his only neighbors when he settled in Putnam County in 1834. Sycamore and his squaw, who had a papoose, got into a quarrel, when he pulled out his knife and cut the child in two. Each one had half, and they settled the quarrel. Indian Tom would steal, so the tribe concluded to put him out of the way. One evening, when the river was rising very fast, they took him down into a low bottom, and tied him to stakes driven in the ground, expecting the river to rise before morning and drown him. But there was a young squaw, who went down in the night and cut him loose. Tom finally went with the Ottawa tribe west.



STREET VIEW AT PAULDING, PAULDING COUNTY.



DEFIANCE COUNTY COURT HOUSE, DEFIANCE.

Stansbury Sutton settled on Ottawa Green in 1833. Indian Tom was a bad Indian. In the spring of 1834 he stole a pony from some of his tribe. They tried him for stealing, found him guilty, took him from camp, divested him of his clothing, laid him on his back, tied him to a stake, and left him to remain all night, subject to the torture of the innumerable hosts of mosquitos and gnats. I saw Tom the next morning; he was a fearful looking object. He looked as though every pore of his skin had been penetrated by the insects. I sympathized with him, notwithstanding I knew he was a thief. After Tom was released they procured whiskey, and the whole tribe (except PeDonquet, the chief), got drunk and had a general spree, lasting two days.

Brockman Brower settled in Greensburg Township in 1833. We obtained our fruit trees from John Chapman—"Johnny Appleseed." When I first saw him he was floating down the Blanchard River in

a canoe, loaded with apple trees, distributing them among the early settlers along the Blanchard, Auglaize and Maumee Rivers. He would supply trees to all, regardless of their ability to pay for them. His nursery was near the head waters of the Blanchard. Loading a canoe, he would descend the river, supplying all who were in need of fruit trees. He thus devoted his time and means for the benefit of his fellow-men. The year 1834 was noted for the July flood. It rained a large portion of the time, from the 20th of June until the 4th of July, at which time the river was at its highest. It was rising nearly two weeks, and nearly as long going down. It will now rise to its highest point in three or four days, and recede in the same length of time.

HANCOCK COUNTY.—Hancock, named in honor of John Hancock, the first president of the Revolutionary Congress, and signer of the Declaration of Independence, was organized under the act of January 21, 1828. The area is about 540 square miles. The surface is level; soil is black loam, mixed with sand, based on limestone and very fertile. Its early settlers were mainly from Pennsylvania. The central and southern parts of the county are watered by Blanchard's Fork of the Auglaize River. In the war of 1812 a road was cut through this county for the use of the troops going to the northwest. Findlay, the county seat, is located where Old Fort Findlay stood. The town was laid out in 1821 by ex-Governor Joseph Vane and Elzathan Corry, and in 1829 again surveyed and a settlement systematically commenced. As early as 1846, just south of the then village of Findlay, were two gas wells. No one then thought that probably the greatest depository of natural gas in the world was stored in the earth beneath the town, and that the town was the center of an immense territory rich in the same wealth. For years Dr. Charles Oesterlen, a German physician, insisted that an enormous quantity of gas was within reach. He was laughed at and called the "gas fool." In 1884 a company was formed, a well drilled, and gas found. Not until January 20, 1886, when the Karg well, with a daily capacity of 15,000,000 feet, was discovered, did the people of the town and county at large begin to realize the magnitude of the affair. A "boom" of gigantic proportions struck the place, and, like most "booms," went to the extreme. The discovery of oil has more than compensated for the collapse of the gas business, and Hancock has become a solid, substantial, wealthy county, and Findlay a city of wonderful vigor, based on real wealth. As an oil center,



STREET SCENE DEFIANCE, DEFIANCE COUNTY.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



WILLIAMS COUNTY COURT HOUSE, BRYAN.

and also having a number of manufacturing establishments which are prospering, the city has a bright future before it. The population of Hancock County in 1900 was 41,993; Findlay, 17,613; Arlington, 738; McComb, 1,195; part of Fostoria, 1,342.

HARDIN COUNTY.—Hardin, named in honor of General John Hardin of Kentucky, was organized under the act of January 19, 1833. In 1820 it was first formed from old Indian territory, but until the date of its organization was attached to Logan County, and later to Champaign, for judicial purposes. About

half of the county is level and the rest undulating, while all is capable of drainage. The soil is partly a gravelly loam and partly clay, based on limestone. Its original forests were very heavy in timber of the usual varieties. The county is on the great watershed of the State. The Blanchard and north branch of the Miami head in Hardin, while the Scioto, rising in Auglaize, flows northeast and then southeast through the great Scioto marsh in Hardin County. Near Kenton, the county seat, is the site of Fort McArthur, built in 1812. The first court in the county was held in a block-house, the residence of Hon. Wm. McCloud, at McArthur. In 1833 the present county seat was laid out, named in honor of Simon Kenton, the great Indian fighter. In 1846 the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad reached the town. The marsh lands of this county cover over 25,000 acres, or 39 square miles, the largest one being the Scioto marsh of 16,000 acres inside the timber line. Hog Creek marsh has about 8,000 acres, and about 1,000 acres of the Cranberry marsh of Wyandot County lies in Hardin. As late as 1883 the work of draining these tracks began in earnest, and a large part of these waste places have been redeemed and made productive. This work has made Kenton the center of a rich agricultural region, with a large trade in grain, cattle and pork, as well as lumber and staves. At Ada is located the Ohio Normal University, now owned by the Methodist Episcopal Church, and which is attended annually by from two to three thousand students. The population of Hardin County in 1900 was 31,187; Kenton, 6,852; Ada, 2,576; Dunkirk, 1,222; Forest, 1,155; Mt. Victory, 734.

CRAWFORD COUNTY.—Crawford County was organized under the act of January 31, 1826. It was named in honor of Colonel William Crawford, who served his country with great honor in the Revolutionary War. In 1782, while leading an expedition against the Ohio Indians, he was captured, and with awful tortures burned to death on the Tyemochtee River, now in Wyandot County. Crawford was formed from Indian land known as the "New Purchase," or the last part of the State which was ceded to the government by a treaty made at the foot of the Maumee Rapids, September 29, 1817. The surface of the county is generally level, and in parts slightly rolling. The southern and western parts are beautiful prairie land, comprising a part of the great Sandusky plains. This is covered with a rich vegetable loam from six to fifteen inches deep. The original settlers of Crawford came largely from



NORTH SIDE OF PUBLIC SQUARE BRYAN, WILLIAMS COUNTY.

New England. In 1832 a heavy immigration set in direct from Germany, and in 1848 the political trouble in the Fatherland sent still more of the same nationality. Bucyrus, the county seat, was laid out in February, 1822, by Samuel Norton and James Kilbourne, who owned the land, and the first settler was Samuel Norton, who had come from Pennsylvania in 1819. The name of the town is said to have been derived from "Busiris," in ancient Egypt. For the first ten years or so after the county was first settled, the people were very poor, having very little to sell, and no market for that little. Since then the advent of railways, the toil of thrifty farmers and the progress of the age has made Crawford a peer of the rural counties and superior to many. Its growth in population and resources from one decade to another has been steady but certain, showing a constant advance. In 1900 Crawford had 33,915 inhabitants; Bucyrus, 6,560; Galion, 7,282; Crestline, 3,282; New Washington, 824.

FULTON COUNTY.—Fulton, named in honor of Robert Fulton, the inventor of the steamboat, was erected from territory detached from Lucas, Henry and Williams counties, and organized by the act of February 28, 1850. Its surface is pleasantly undulating, and it is drained by the tributaries of the Maumee. Its soil is very fertile. On account of being so heavily wooded, its early settlement was slow, and the county has had only the steady, gradual development of an agricultural region. The region was, in early days, a favorite resort of the Indians. Ottokee and Wase-on were famous chieftains, and were about the last Indians to leave the territory now embraced in Fulton County, going West in the spring of 1838. The United States government induced the Indians to give up their claims to that section and take instead certain lands in a region now near Kansas City, Kansas. The county seat of Fulton, Wauseon, was named in honor of the old Indian. The town was platted in 1854, and the first building was erected as a store and dwelling by E. L. Hayes in the same year. In 1870 the town became the seat of justice. In 1900 the population of



FULTON COUNTY COURT HOUSE, WAUSEON

the county was 22,801; Wauseon, 2,148; Delta, 1,230; Fayette, 886; Archbald, 958; Swanton, 887.

HENRY COUNTY.—Henry County, named in honor of Patrick Henry, the renowned Virginian, orator and patriot, was organized under the act of February 2, 1824. This county is another of the now wealthy sections of the old Black Swamps, of which it was said some fifty years ago, "in less than a century, when it shall be cleared and drained, it will be the garden spot of Ohio, and support half a million people." The tract was 120 miles in length, and had an average width of 40 miles. The surface of Henry County throughout is level, the soil being of a black, decayed vegetable substance, a foot thick, and of a remarkable fertility. Underneath this top soil, in this county, lies a rich yellow clay, containing large quantities of lime and silex. The land is well adapted to the production of grain, fruit and vegetables of all classes, and has been cultivated to a high degree by the thrifty German farmers who have settled in Henry County within the past 30 years. The region settled very



FULTON STREET LOOKING NORTH, WAUSEON, FULTON COUNTY.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



HENRY COUNTY COURT HOUSE, NAPOLEON.

slowly. In 1830 the county had barely 262 inhabitants. In 1832 Napoleon was platted, and the same year the first cabin was erected there. This cabin was 12x14 feet in size, and opened to the public by Amos Andrews as a tavern. When the canal reached the town it became a place of considerable importance. The vicinity of Napoleon in pioneer days was one of the haunts of Simon Girty, the white renegade, who was associated with the Indians in so many atrocities. In 1900 Henry County had 27,282 population; Napoleon, 3,639; Deshler, 1,628; McClure, 660; Liberty Center, 606; Holgate, 1,237.

WILLIAMS COUNTY.—Williams, named in honor of Private John Williams, one of the trio who captured Major Andre, was organized under the act of February 2, 1824. The surface of the county is slightly rolling, but generally level. In the western part the soil is sandy. The soil is generally of a clayey nature, partly a sandy loam. This county was much reduced in 1845 by the formation of Defiance County, to which it contributed the Townships of Defiance, Delaware, Farmer, Hicksville, Millford, Tiffin and Washington. The original population came from Ohio, New England, New York, Pennsylvania and Germany. Two ancient lake beaches cross the county. The first artesian well in Northwestern Ohio was sunk at Bryan in

1842. The Indians found by the early settlers in this section were of the Ottawa, Miami, Pottawatamie and Wyandot tribes. At first Defiance was the seat of justice for Williams, until 1845, when it was moved to Bryan. This town was laid out in 1840 by William Arrowsmith, in which year the town plat was first recorded. It was named in honor of Hon. John A. Bryan, who had served as Auditor of State. The site of Bryan, and, in short, a large part of Williams County, was covered by immense forests of gigantic trees. The first settlers, however, had very little idea of preserving the native timber, and so large areas of woodland were ruthlessly destroyed to make room for the plow. These forests were of great value, only being realized in late years. The growth of Williams County, like that of most Northwestern Ohio counties, was very slow for many years, but in more recent times it has made splendid advancement. The population in 1900 was 24,953: Bryan, 3,131; West Unity, 897; Edon, 720; Pioneer, 603; Alvordton, 482; Edgerton, 1,043; Stryker, 1,206; Montpelier, 1,869.

LUCAS COUNTY.—Lucas, named in honor of Governor Robert Lucas of Ohio, was erected and organized under the act of January, 1835. The boundaries fixed were: Beginning at the front on Lake Erie where Fulton's line intersects it, thence west with said line to the Maumee River, thence southwesterly with said river to a point where a line drawn between Townships 6 and 7 if drawn across the 12-mile square reservation would intersect it, thence due west with the said township line between Henry and Williams, thence north with said county line to the northern boundary of the State, called Harris' line, thence easterly with said line to Lake Erie, and thence with the lake to the place of beginning. This line was more clearly established by the act of March 14, 1836. The surface of the county is level, a portion of it was originally swamp, and the northern part is sandy soil. The section of Lucas in the vicinity of Maumee is rich in historical interest. Near Maumee, on August 20, 1794, was fought the battle of Fallen Timbers, in which General Anthony Wayne administered terrible punishment upon the Indians. Below Maumee is the site of Fort Miami, first a French and then a British stronghold. Maumee was the first county seat, the court house standing where Colonel Dudley and over 300 brave Kentuckians were



STREET VIEW AT NAPOLEON, HENRY COUNTY.

massacred in the war of 1812. Toledo at first was located at the site of Fort Industry, a stockade built in 1800 close to the Maumee River. Port Lawrence and Vistula were later settlements, but lost their identity. For many years the place was a struggling town, scattered along the river several miles from the bay, but through a checkered career it has finally emerged into a wonderful city, situated on both sides of the river and extending its suburbs up the Maumee for ten miles, and reaching eastward, westward and southward by means of electric car lines until it bids fair to be one of the first cities that range the circle of the great lakes like diadems upon a royal crown. It is now the third city of the State in population. It is a great grain market, and as a lake port has unequaled harbor facilities. Over 150 passenger trains daily arrive and depart from its depots. In 1900 the population of Lucas County was 153,559; Toledo, 131,822; Maumee, 1,856; Waterville, 703; Whitehouse, 621; Sylvania, 617.

DEFIANCE COUNTY.—Defiance, after Fort Defiance, erected and named by General Anthony Wayne, was formed from territory taken from Williams, Henry and Paulding, and organized by the act of March 4, 1845. The county is watered by the Auglaize, the Tiffin and the Maumee Rivers. Much of the county is Black Swamp land, as fertile as the valley of the Nile. It was covered at first by great forests of oak, hickory, ash, elm, and other trees, many of such gigantic size as to require great labor in clear-

ing them away. The lands now embraced within Defiance County were ceded by the Indians to the United States by the treaty of September 29, 1817, at the rapids of the Maumee. Surveys were made from the Indiana line east to the line of the Western Reserve and east to the Greenville Treaty line. The base line of this survey is the forty-first degree of north latitude, and is also the southern line of the Connecticut Western Reserve. On the 12th of February, 1820, the Legislature of Ohio passed an act erecting these ceded lands, "into fourteen separate and distinct counties." The nucleus of the early settlement of these counties was at Defiance, in what is now Defiance County. Defiance was at first the county seat of Williams County. Then Bryan was made the seat of justice for Williams, and a new county, Defiance, was set off. Defiance was laid out in 1822 by Benjamin Level and Horatio G. Phillips. It is on the site of a large Indian settlement which extended for miles up and down the Maumee River. It is in the center of the region drained by the Maumee, which consists of twelve counties in Ohio and parts of Michigan and Indiana. The name given to the place by the French in early times was Auglaize. In the War of 1812 Fort Defiance was an important point for the concentration of troops under General William Henry Harrison, against the British troops and the Indians on the frontier. In 1900 the population of Defiance County was 26,387; Defiance, 7,579; Hicksville, 2,520; Sherwood, 455.



LUCAS COUNTY COURT HOUSE, TOLEDO



ROBINWOOD AVENUE, TOLEDO.



OLD FORT DEFIANCE BLOCK HOUSE.

WOOD COUNTY.—Wood, named in honor of Colonel Wood, distinguished officer of the war of 1812, was organized under the act of February 12, 1820. The surface is level, and was a part of the once terrible "Black Swamp," now rich, fertile and highly productive. The area is about 620 square miles, and its exports include all the agricultural products, oil and limestone. There are few counties in Ohio that can show as great changes in the last 40, or even 25 years, as Wood. In its early history it was an almost unbroken forest, covering the Black Swamp, and with but few inhabitants. Now it is thickly settled by prosperous agriculturists, three-fourths of whom are within two and one-half miles of some line of railway, and the county has become one of the garden spots of Ohio. As in other counties, drainage has been the great factor in the progress made. One single ditch, the "Jackson Cut-Off," drains 30,000 acres, and cost \$110,000. It is stated that, counting the railway and public and private ditches, there are in Wood County 16,000 miles of ditches, consisting in the aggregate, millions of dollars. These formed the basis of the agricultural prosperity of the county in connection with the natural richness of the soil. In addition to this came the discovery of gas and oil, the latter becoming a permanent source of wealth-producing power, which has placed the county ahead of many older communities in financial strength. Bowling Green, the county seat, is the center of the North Lima oil field, and as such, is a remarkably thriving business center. The original seat of justice in Wood County was Perrysburg, at the head of navigation on the Maumee River. It was laid out in 1816 just below Ft. Meigs, where Gen. William Henry Harrison made such a gallant stand against the British and Indians during the war of 1812. Perrysburg, located at the northern end of the county, was not convenient and in 1868 Bowling Green was made the county seat. The county has a large number of prosperous towns and villages which have sprung up within the last fifteen years, most of them, and all of which show signs of an enduring character. The population of Wood County in 1900 was 51,555: Bowling Green, 5,067; North Baltimore, 3,561; Perrysburg, 1,766; Cygnet, 896; Jerry City, 555; Bloomingdale, 740; Pemberville, 1,081; Grand Rapids, 549; Bradner, 1,148; Prairie Depot, 815; Rising Sun, 660; Weston, 953.

PAULDING COUNTY.—Paulding, named in honor of Private John Paulding, one of Major Andre's captors, was organ-



WOOD COUNTY COURT HOUSE, BOWLING GREEN.

ized under the act of March 18, 1839. The county is level as to surface, and originally swampy. The country roads, having no obstacle to surmount, were laid out through the woods straight as an arrow. Railroads were also built on similar lines. It is stated that a person can stand near the depot in Defiance and see the headlight of a locomotive two and a half miles from Antwerp, 23 miles away. In early days, in Paulding County, very few people had any idea that the region would ever be occupied except along the streams. Thriving towns and villages, with rich farm lands, good buildings, and thousands of prosperous citizens, were not dreamed of in those days. Every acre of Paulding can be cultivated when cleared and drained. Two large streams run through the county, the Maumee and the Auglaize, which united form what was called, on ancient maps, "The Miami of the North," but now the Maumee. Paulding was one of the latest counties to be settled, and only a few years ago had many of the marks



STREET VIEW BOWLING GREEN, WOOD COUNTY.
A County Fair Day

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



HANCOCK COUNTY COURT HOUSE, FINDLAY.

of a new section. Its towns and villages were located in the midst of clearings made in the gigantic forests, standing in all their primeval grandeur. The mills have been running ceaselessly to work the trees of these forests into timber for the lumber yards of the nation. After selling the timber the owners of the soil had the price thereof with which to drain and tile their broad acres. The making of the hoops and staves has furnished employment to labor, and has been the means of building up a number of thriving communities. In the western part of the county was located the reservoir of the Wabash & Erie Canal, which connected with the Miami & Erie Canal. The State of Indiana abandoned the Wabash Canal, and the reservoir, covering as it did, 2,000 acres, became a menace to health. On the night of April 25, 1888, some 200 men cut the banks and let so much water out that the reservoir was practically destroyed. Ohio has since disposed of the land once covered by the water. Charloe, 12 miles south of Defiance, was for a short time the county seat, but Paulding was made the permanent capital. In 1900 the population of Paulding County was 27,528; Paulding, 2,080; Antwerp, 1,206; Payne, 1,336; Scott, 547; Grover Hill, 655.

SANDUSKY COUNTY.—Sandusky, an Indian name signifying "cold water," was organized under the act of February 12, 1820, and formed from old Indian territory. The soil is fertile, and the surface is generally level. The "Black Swamp" tract covers the western part. Its first settlers were mainly

from New England, but since then many from Pennsylvania and Germany have followed the first comers. Like Seneca, Sandusky County was a favorite region with the Indians. Fort Stephenson, or Sandusky, so gallantly defended August 2, 1813, by Colonel Croghan and the United States troops, stood on the present site of Fremont, the county seat. Here the gallant Americans repulsed a large force of British. There were also, in the earlier days of the county's history, remains of ancient earthworks in this region, evidently constructed centuries before. The county seat was at first known as Lower Sandusky, which name it retained until about 1850, when it was changed to Fremont, in honor of General John C. Fremont, the "great pathfinder." In Fremont the late Rutherford B. Hayes, president of the United States, commenced the practice of law. He resided there when elected to that high office, and there he died and is buried. No less famous than her illustrious husband, was

Mrs. Lucy Webb Hayes, whose life was devoted to deeds of kindly benevolence. General J. B. McPherson, the gallant officer of the Union Army, who fell at the battle of Atlanta, July 22, 1864, was born at Clyde, Ohio. Fremont has become a thriving manufacturing city, famous for beautiful homes and solid business interests. In 1900 Sandusky County had 34,311 population; Fremont, 8,439; Clyde, 2,515; Greenspring, 816; Gibsonburg, 1,791; Lindsay, 614; Woodville, 831; Bellevue (partly), 1,294.

WYANDOT COUNTY.—Wyandot, named for the Wyandot Tribe of Indians, was erected and organized from territory detached from Crawford, Marion, Hardin and Hancock, in about equal proportions, by the act of February 3, 1845. The surface of the county is level and very fertile. About one-third of it is prairie land, being covered by the Sandusky plains. This tract in its natural state was covered with a rank, wild grass, several



MAIN STREET, FINDLAY, HANCOCK COUNTY.

feet in height. This section was, from an early day, a favorite residence of the Wyandot Indians. It was the scene of Colonel Crawford's defeat in June, 1782, and his subsequent death by the most cruel tortures. A monument now marks the spot. Upper Sandusky, the county seat, is on the west bank of the Sandusky River. It was laid out in 1843, near the site of Fort Ferreem, a stockade structure, built by General Harrison in the war of 1812. The old Indian village of Crane Town was located about four miles from Upper Sandusky. In 1824, at Upper Sandusky, the Methodist Episcopal Church built a mission for the Indians, which was maintained for many years, and numerous converts were made among the Wyandots. The county at present is rich in agricultural resources, with considerable oil and gas territory. In 1900 the population of Wyandot County was 21,125; Upper Sandusky, 3,255; Syeamore, 853; Nevada, 899; Carey, 1,816.

SENECA COUNTY.—Seneca, organized under the act of January 22, 1824, was named from the tribe of Indians who at one time had a reservation within its limits. The surface is level, and well watered. The soil is a rich loam. It was settled by people from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland and New York, with a number of Germans. The principal farm products are wheat, corn, grass, oats, potatoes and pork. Building stone and lime are also shipped. Fort Seneca, a military post, built during the war of 1812, was located nine miles south of Tiffin. It occupied several acres on the bank of the Sandusky River. It was here that General Harrison narrowly escaped being murdered by an Indian. The section is rich in the traditional lore of the Red Men. Here were their great towns located, and thither came the warriors from far and near to attend the councils of their tribes. Tiffin, the county seat, was laid out in 1821 by Josiah Hedges, and was named in honor of Hon. Edward Tiffin, president of the convention which adopted the Constitution of Ohio, and was the first governor of the State, elected in 1803. In early days Fort Ball was located opposite Tiffin, on the west bank of the Sandusky. Tiffin is now situated on both sides of the river,



HARDIN COUNTY COURT HOUSE, KENTON.

and is a splendid provincial city. Heidelberg College is located here. Tiffin was the home of the late General William H. Gibson, one of the unique and powerful orators of the last half of the nineteenth century in Ohio. Fostoria, the largest section of which lies in Seneca, was formed from two rival towns of Risdon and Rome, laid out about 1832. The name given later was in honor of the father of Hon. Charles Foster. The old plank roads through the "Black Swamp" have given way to railways and modern thoroughfares, and Seneca County is strong in solid and substantial wealth. In 1900 it had a population of 41,163; Tiffin, 10,375; Bloomville, 819; Fostoria (partly), 6,208; Republic, 656; Attica, 694.



STREET SCENE AT KENTON, HARDIN COUNTY.

ERIE COUNTY.—Erie, named for the Erie tribe of Indians, was erected from territory detached from Huron and Sandusky Counties, by the act of March 15, 1838, and organized by the act of March 16, 1838. The surface of the county forms a gentle slope from the south line, where it has an elevation of about one hundred and fifty feet above the lake to the lake level. It has great quarries of limestone and freestone. The soil is fertile. It is prominent as a fruit growing county, productive in apples, peaches, and particularly in grapes. Its area is only 290 square miles, being in extent one of the smallest counties in the State. Erie, Huron, and a part of Ottawa Counties comprise that part of the Western Reserve known as



LOOKING DOWN STREET, FREMONT, SHOWING CROGHAN'S MONUMENT AND OLD CANNON "BETSY."

“The Firelands,” being a tract of about 500,000 acres, granted by the State of Connecticut to the sufferers by fire from the British in their raids into that State. The first regular settlers upon the Firelands came early in 1808, and others later in the same year. The county seat of Erie County, Sandusky, was laid out in 1817, at which time the place was called Ogontz. The proprietors of the town, Hon. Z. Wildman, of Danbury, Connecticut, and Hon. Isaac Mills, of New Haven, named it Portland. It was given a great impetus in the forties by the construction of the Mad River & Little Miami Railroad, and the Sandusky, Mansfield & Newark Railroad. It early became prominent as a lake town of importance. It is claimed that in the manufacture of wheels and wood implements it excels any city in the Union. The Ohio Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Home is located near the city, and is one of the best institutions of the kind in the Union. The Ohio State Fish Hatchery is also situated on the lake front near Sandusky. Thomas A. Edison, the world-famous inventor, was born at Milan, in this county, in 1847. Kelly’s Island, 13 miles out in the lake, is a township of Erie County, and contains a little over four square miles. This island is famous for its production of wine. The population of Erie County in 1900 was 37,650; Sandusky, 19,664; Vermillion, 1,184; Huron, 1,708; Milan, 653; Berlin Heights, 625; Kelly’s Island, 1,174.

OTTAWA COUNTY.—Ottawa, an Indian name, meaning “trader,” was erected and organized from territory taken from Sandusky, Erie and Lucas, by the act of March 6, 1840. The surface of the county is level, most of it being within the “black swamp,” but a small part of the eastern section being within the Firelands. But few settlers came into the region prior to 1830. About 1849 a tide of emigration set in from Germany. The farms are not large, but highly productive. On the peninsula, which extends into Lake Erie, are extensive plaster beds, and underneath it are great limestone quarries. The great victory of Commodore Perry, in the war of 1812, took place on the lake a few miles from the shore of Ottawa County. South Bass, sometimes called Pnt-in Bay Island, and the smaller islands about it, form Put-in Bay Township, Ottawa County. They are famous for their production of wine. On one of them, Gibraltar, is located the summer home of Jay Cooke. Lakeside, a famous summer resort, is located on the northeast shore of the peninsula. Port Clinton, which, after a long and bitter struggle, is now the county seat, was laid out in 1827. It is situated on a beautiful bay, at the



SANDUSKY COUNTY COURT HOUSE, FREMONT.

mouth of Portage River. The situation of the town is favorable for a steady and continuous growth in the future. In 1900 the population of Ottawa County was 22,213; Port Clinton, 2,450; Oak Harbor, 1,630; Elmore, 1,025; Marblehead, 997; Genoa, 824.

INDIAN CHARACTERISTICS AND CUSTOMS.

Religious Ceremonies.—After we had rendezvoused, preparatory to moving, we were detained several weeks waiting until they had got over their tedious round of religious ceremonies, some of which were public and others kept private from us. One of their first acts was to take away the fencing from the graves of their fathers, level them to the surrounding surface, and cover them so neatly with green sod, that not a trace of the graves could be seen. Subsequently, a few of the chiefs and others visited their friends at a distance, gave and received presents from chiefs of other nations, at their headquarters. Among the ceremonies above alluded to was a dance, in which none participated but the warriors. They threw off all their clothing but their breechelouts, painted their faces and naked bodies in a fantastical manner, covering them with the pictures of snakes and disagreeable insects and animals, and then, armed with war clubs, commenced dancing, yelling and frightfully distorting their countenances—the scene was truly terrific. This was followed by the dance they usually have on returning from a victorious battle, in which both sexes



SANDUSKY RIVER LOOKING NORTH FROM STATE STREET BRIDGE, FREMONT.

It is claimed the British soldiers landed at a point on the west side of the river just below the bridge in their attack on Fort Stephenson in 1813.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



SENECA COUNTY COURT HOUSE, TIFFIN.

participated. It was a pleasing contrast to the other, and was performed in the night, in a ring, around a large fire. In this they sang and marched, males and females promiscuously, in single file, around the blaze. The leader of the band commenced singing, while all the rest were silent until he had sung a certain number of words, then the next in the row commenced with the same, the leader began with a new set, and so on to the end of their chanting. All were singing at once, but no two the same words. I was told that part of the words they used were hallelujah! It was pleasing to witness the native modesty and graceful movement of those young females in this dance.

Fascinations of Indian Character.—With all their foibles and vices there is something fascinating in the Indian character, and one cannot long associate with them without having a preceptible growing attachment. The Indian is emphatically the natural man, and it is an easy thing to make an Indian out of a white person, but very difficult to civilize or Christianize an Indian. I have known a number of whites who had been taken prisoners by the Indians when young, and without exception they formed such attachments that, after being with them some time, they could not be induced to return to their own people. There was a woman among the Shawnees, supposed to be near an hundred years of age, who was taken prisoner, when young, in Eastern Pennsylvania. Some years after, her

friends, through the agency of traders, endeavored to induce her to return, but in vain. She became, if possible, more of a squaw in her habits and appearance than any female in the nation.

Indian Punctuality.—As a sample of their punctuality in performing contracts, I would state that I have often loaned them money, which was always returned in due season, with a single exception. This was a loan to a young man who promised to pay me when they received their annuity. After the appointed time he shunned me, and the matter remained unsettled until just prior to our departure for their new homes. I then stated the circumstance to one of the chiefs, more from curiosity to see how he would receive the intelligence than with the expectation of its being the means of bringing the money. He, thereupon, talked with the lad upon the subject, but, being unsuccessful, he called a council of his brother chiefs, who formed a circle, with the young man in the center. After talking to him for a while in a low tone, they broke out and vociferously reprimanded him for his dishonest conduct, but all proved unavailing. Finally, the chiefs, in a most generous and noble spirit, made up the amount from their own purses, and pleasantly tendered it to me.—From “Experiences Among the Indians.” by David Robb, Indian Agent.

THE OHIO INDIAN.

We are apt to think of the Indian as a lurking, dangerous, unrelenting savage, infesting the forest and living without laws or restrictions of any kind, and with no intentions but of evil. This view is both erroneous and unjust. It is true that they were alert and dangerous as enemies, when once they were made enemies, but when we shall have learned a broader charity and truth, instead of prejudice and fiction, shall be recorded as history, it will be found that the Indian has not always been the aggressor, and was not by nature the cruel savage as generally assumed and represented. We, the white people, have written all the history so far, but a more impartial review will yet be made when it will appear that the cruel and vindictive acts of the Indians were largely the result of the cruel and vindictive acts of the white men. They were not, at worst, more fierce or savage than many of the white men with whom they came in contact; and, in truth, they could not have been, for history records no darker or bloodier crimes than those which have been committed by our race against the Indian tribes. The massacre of the Moravian Indians in 1782, on the soil of Ohio, in the now county of Tuscarawas, and the murder of Chief Cornstalk and his son Elenipsies in 1777, at Point Pleasant, will always



WASHINGTON STREET TIFFIN, SENECA COUNTY.

remain among the darkest, most dreadful and disgraceful pages in American history. A thousand other atrocities of various natures shame and disgrace the history of our contact with the Indian tribes whom we call savages, and largely rob us of the right to claim superiority over them, save in the matter of education and physical force.

They had no written laws, but they had rules of tribal and family government, which had all the force of laws. They had no written language and but a limited vocabulary, but many of them were gifted with marvelous eloquence of speech; and it would be easy to cite among their reported speeches numerous examples of eloquence, which, except for want of classic form, would rank little below the best efforts of the best English-speaking orators. They had neither courts nor judges, but they dealt justly with each other, and guarded individual rights with jealous care. They had no military schools, but they developed brave and skillful warriors, and the names of Pontiac, Teeumseh, Crane, Cornstalk, Solomon, and many other chiefs will remain a permanent part of the history of the long and bloody contest between the Indian tribes and white men for the possession of the territory of the great Northwest.

Our immediate predecessors in the occupancy of Ohio were the Miamis, Shawnees, Delawares and Ottawas of the Algonquin linguistic family, and the Wyandots and Mingoes of the Iroquois linguistic family. There were also in the eastern and northeastern part of the State a few of the Senecas and Tuscarawas, who were of the Iroquois family. Their occupancy, however, was for hunting purposes and temporary in character, their permanent homes being farther east in New York and northern Pennsylvania. Their tribal relations were with the Six Nations of the Iroquois. In the early part of this century some of the Senecas broke away from their original tribal relations and settled near Sandusky, within the territory claimed by the Wyandots. They were inconsiderable, both in numbers and influence, and came into Ohio after the formation of the State and cannot, therefore, be considered as having an original occupancy of the country.

The Mingos were but a small tribe, a branch of the Iroquois, which formerly occupied the eastern portion of the State, near Steubenville, and later settled upon the banks of the Scioto, where the city of Columbus now stands. They had but three small villages, one in front of and south from where the Ohio Penitentiary now stands, another was at the west end of the Harrisburg bridge. Logan was their most noted chief and at one time possessed great influence, not only over his own, but all the other tribes of the Ohio.



WYANDOT COUNTY COURT HOUSE, UPPER SANDUSKY.

As illustrating the fierce nature of the conflicts between the tribes north of the Ohio and those south of it in times past, it is an important fact that no tribes lived along the banks of that river or permanently occupied the contiguous territory. The Ohio, as it flowed through the wilderness, was, and has always been, considered one of the most beautiful rivers on the globe, and its banks presented every allurement to and advantage of permanent occupation. Yet, there was not on it, from its source to its mouth, a distance of more than a thousand miles, a single wigwam or structure in the nature of a permanent abode.

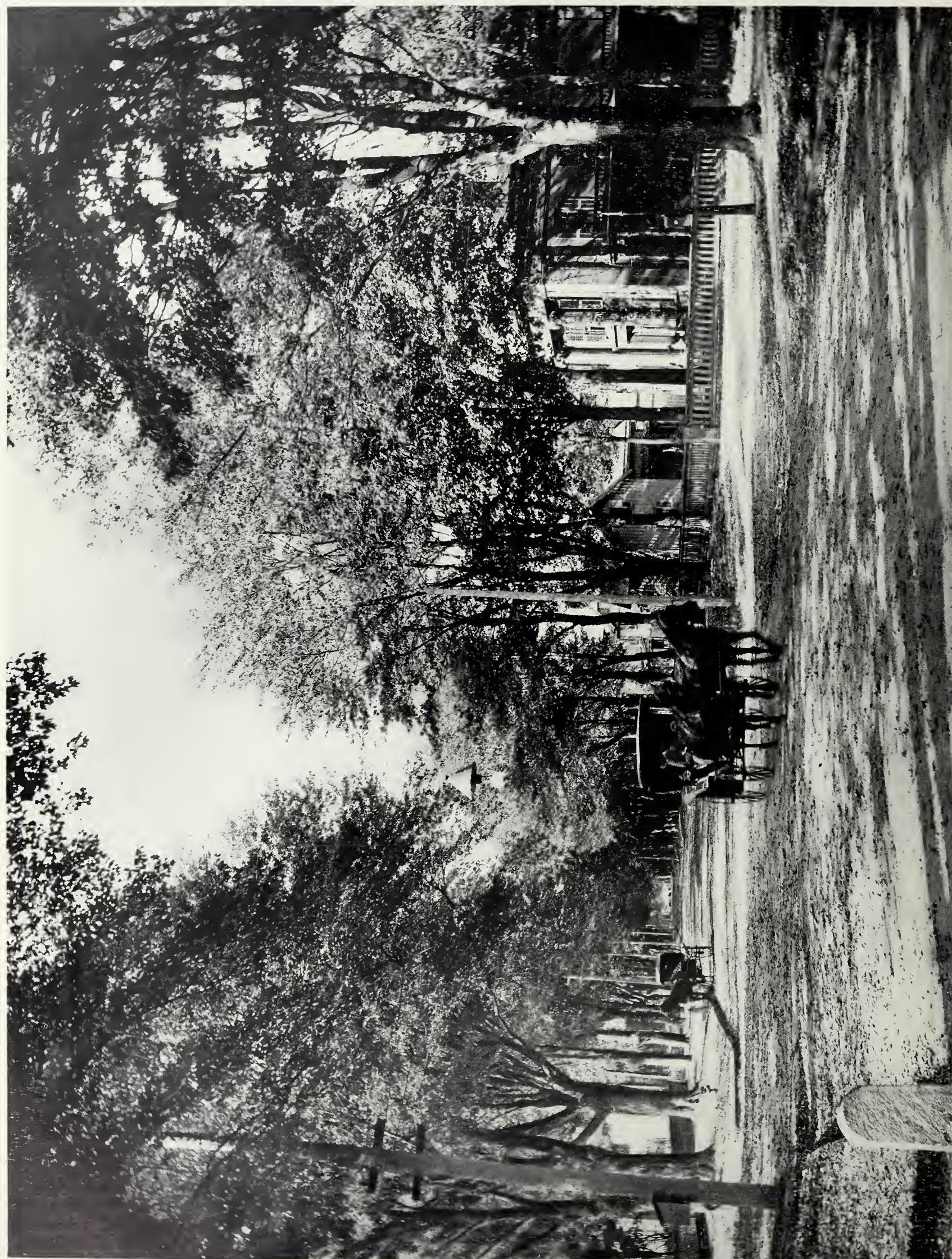
General William Henry Harrison, in an address before the Historical Society of Ohio, said: "Of all this immense territory the most beautiful portion was unoccupied. Numerous villages were to be found on the Scioto and the head waters of the two Miamis of the Ohio; on the Miami of the Lake (the Maumee) and its southern tributaries and throughout the whole course of the

Wabash, at least as low as the present town of Vincennes; but the beautiful Ohio rolled its amber tide until it paid its tribute to the father waters through an unbroken solitude. At and before that time and for a century after, its banks were without a town or single village, or even a single cottage, the curling smoke of whose chimneys would give the promise of comfort and refreshment to a weary traveler."

This was the result of the long and fierce struggle which was waged between the Indians north of the Ohio and those south of it. Its banks were not safe for



MAIN STREET VIEW, UPPER SANDUSKY, WYANDOT COUNTY.



WEST MAIN STREET AT CORNER OF PLEASANT, LOOKING WEST, NORWALK.

permanent occupation by any of the Indian tribes. Even the vast and fertile territory of Kentucky was not, so far as known or as tradition informs us, the permanent abode of any considerable number of red men. It was, indeed, a dark and bloody ground long before its occupancy by the white men. In that territory there were great numbers of buffalo game, which made it a most desirable hunting ground, and hither came the Cherokees and Chickasaws of the south, as also the tribes north of the Ohio, to hunt and to obtain salt, and to wage war with each other; but it was not the permanent abode of any considerable number of any of these tribes. It was, rather, a battle ground and seat of conflict between the northern and southern tribes which had been waged for a long period of time.

INDIAN GOVERNMENT.

All the tribes in Ohio had practically the same government or tribal organization, although they may have differed in many details. In the social organization of the Wyandots there were four groups—the family, the gens, the phratry, and the tribe. The family was the household. It consisted of the persons who occupied one lodge or wigwam. The gens were composed of consanguineal kindred in the female line. The woman is the head of the family and "carries the gens," and each gens has the name of some animal. Among the Wyandots there were eleven gentes, namely: Deer, Bear, Striped Turtle, Black Turtle, Mud Turtle, Smooth Large Turtle, Hawk, Beaver, Wolf, Sea Snake, and Porcupine. A tribe is a body of kindred, and to be a member of the tribe, it was necessary to belong to some family or to be adopted into a family. The white captives were often adopted into families and given the relationship of the family. The phratry pertained to medical and religious rites and observances.

There was practically a complete separation of the military from the social government. The councils and chiefs in the social



HURON COUNTY COURT HOUSE, NORWALK.

government were selected by a council of women from the male members of the gens.

The Sachem of the tribe or tribal chief was chosen by the chiefs of the gentes. In their grand councils the heads of the households of the tribe and all the leading men of the tribe took part. These general councils were conducted with great ceremony. The Sachem explained the object for which the council was assembled, as to what was proper or best to be done. If a majority of the council agreed the Sachem did not speak, but simply announced the decision. In case there was an equal division of sentiment, the Sachem was expected to speak. It was considered dishonorable for a man to reverse his opinion after he had once expressed it.

The wife had her separate property, which consisted of everything in the lodge or wigwam, except the implements of war and the chase, which belonged to the men.

Each gens had a right to the service of all its available male members in avenging wrongs and in times of war. They also had a right to their services as hunters in supplying game to the villages. In times of need or scarcity whatever game was brought to the camp or village was fairly divided among all present.

The military council was composed of all the able-bodied men of the tribe. Each gens had a right to the services of all the able-bodied women in the cultivation of the soil. It was considered beneath the dignity of the Indian hunter or warrior to labor in the fields or to perform manual labor outside of what



WEST MAIN STREET, LOOKING EAST, NORWALK, HURON COUNTY.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



CRAWFORD COUNTY COURT HOUSE, BUCYRUS.

pertained to war and the chase. The children assisted the women in the cultivation of the crops, which consisted mostly of corn, although they also cultivated beans and peas, and in some parts of Ohio, at least, they had a kind of potato, which, the captives among the Indians say, "when peeled and dipped in corn's fat or bear's fat, tasted like our sweet potatoes." They also made considerable use of nuts and berries, particularly of the walnut and hickory nut and black haw, all of which were found in almost every part of the State. The cranberry was also found in certain places and much used.

The Mingo Indians at this point cultivated the rich bottom land between Franklinton and the river, which was subject to annual overflows, so that it was constantly enriched and yielded most abundant returns for the labor bestowed upon it.

Their great annual occasion was the green corn festival. For this festival the hunters supplied the game from the forests, and the women the green corn and vegetables from the fields. On this occasion they not only feasted themselves with plenty, but made offerings and did homage to the Great Spirit for his blessings. At this festival each year the council of women of the gens selected the names of the children born during the previous year, and the chiefs of the gens pro-

claimed these names at the festival. These names could not be changed, but an additional name might be acquired by some act of bravery or circumstance which might reflect honor upon the person.

The crimes generally recognized and punished by the Ohio tribes were murder, treason, theft, adultery and witchcraft. In case of murder it was the duty of the gentle chiefs of the offender's gens to examine the facts for themselves, and if they failed to settle the matter it was the duty of the nearest relative to avenge the wrong.

Theft was punished by twofold restitution.

Treason consisted of revealing the secrets of the medicine preparations, as well as giving information or assistance to the enemy, and was punished by death.

Witchcraft was also punishable by death either by stabbing, burning or with the tomahawk. As late as June, 1810, Chief Leatherlips (Shate-yaronyah), an aged chief of the Wyandots, was executed under the charge of witchcraft in this country. He was dispatched with a tomahawk.

For the first offense of adultery in a woman her hair was cropped; for repeated offenses her left ear was cut off.

Outlawry was also recognized among most of the tribes and consisted of two grades. If convicted of the lowest grade, and the man thereafter committed similar crimes, it was lawful for any person to kill him. In outlawry of the highest grade it was the duty of any member of the tribe who might meet the offender to kill him.

When the Indians determined upon a war expedition they usually observed the war dance and then started for their objective point. They did not move in a compact body, but broke up into small parties, each of which would take a different way to a common point of assembly. This was necessary, as they had to subsist upon the game which they might be able to take while on the way, and it was difficult, if not impossible, to secure game sufficient to sustain a large number of warriors on any one line of travel. They traveled light and fast, and this made them dangerous as enemies. They would strike when not expected and disappear as suddenly and quickly as they had appeared. In this



SOUTH SANDUSKY AVENUE, BUCYRUS, CRAWFORD COUNTY.

way they were able to subsist and elude pursuit. Their captives in war and in their forays were sometimes shot, sometimes burned, sometimes adopted into a family and converted into Indians. The white captives as a rule soon acquired the woodcraft and habit of their captors. Some of them became inveterate and active foes of the white man. Simon Girty may be mentioned as an example of this class. He was called the "White Indian." He was celebrated for his cunning and craftiness, and no Indian surpassed him in these qualities. He is often and usually cited as an example of extreme cruelty, but it is said in truth that he saved many captives from death, and it is probable that injustice has been done to him by inaccurate and prejudiced writers.

It was in the summer season that the Indians congregated in their villages. That was also the season when they went to war or on their forays against the white settlers. In the winter season the villages were practically deserted, as it was their custom to separate into small parties, usually that of the near relatives or, as we would say, members of the household, including the old men, women and children. They would go into different localities and select a spot usually along a stream of water or by the side of a lake or spring, where, in the autumn or early winter, they would erect a lodgement where the old men, women and children might sojourn through the winter. The hunters would then separate and go into different directions and select a place or camp from which to hunt and trap, so as not to impinge upon each other, always keeping relation with the main camp or lodge to which they supplied meat for subsistence. They would, of course, change these camps according to their pleasure or their necessities, but at the end of the season they would gather the results of their winter's hunt and proceed back to their villages. It was their custom during the hunting season to collect the fat of beaver, the raccoon and the bear, and to secure it in the paunches or entrails of large animals, which the women had prepared for that purpose; and this was transported or conveyed to their villages for future use.



ERIE COUNTY COURT HOUSE, SANDUSKY

They also made sugar in the spring of the year when the sap began to run, and this they also put into the entrails of animals for preservation and transportation to their summer villages. This sugar they mixed with the fat of the bear and that of other animals, and cooked it with green corn and such vegetables as they had, and thus made what they considered a most savory food. They were often reduced to great distress for want of food,

and often died from hunger and exposure. They were not only improvident, but they had no means of securing large stores of provisions for future use, and never acquired the art of so doing. When they had plenty they would use it with extravagance and improvidence; but they were capable of enduring great hunger and fatigue. It was common for the Indian to be days without food of any kind, but they seemed never to have profited by such experiences. The time when they were most likely to be distressed for want of food was in the winter, when a crust would be formed upon the snow, so that when walking such a noise was made as to scare the game before them. It was almost impossible for them to take deer, buffalo or other wild game under such circumstances. They were then required to depend upon finding bear or coon trees. These their



MARKET STREET, SANDUSKY, LOOKING EAST.

PICTURESQUE NORTHWESTERN OHIO



OTTAWA COUNTY COURT HOUSE, PORT CLINTON.

quick and practiced eye would soon detect when they came across them, but they were not always easily found, and it was often days before they would come upon one of them. They often saved themselves from starvation by digging hickory nuts, walnuts and other nuts from under the snow.

The territory of Ohio furnished an ideal home for the Indians.

The climate was excellent, and the streams abounded with fish and the forests with game. The red deer was abundant, and the buffalo and elk were found in considerable numbers in certain portions of the State. These and other large animals furnished food for the Indians, and their hides furnished covering for their lodges and clothing for their persons. The waters of the State at certain seasons of the year were alive with myriads of wild fowl, of which we can now have no conception as to numbers. These added greatly to the sustenance of the Indians. No portion of the country was more favorable for forest life.

After the settlement at Franklinton it soon became a trading point for the Indians, particularly the Wyandots, and the hutners of this tribe continued to maintain

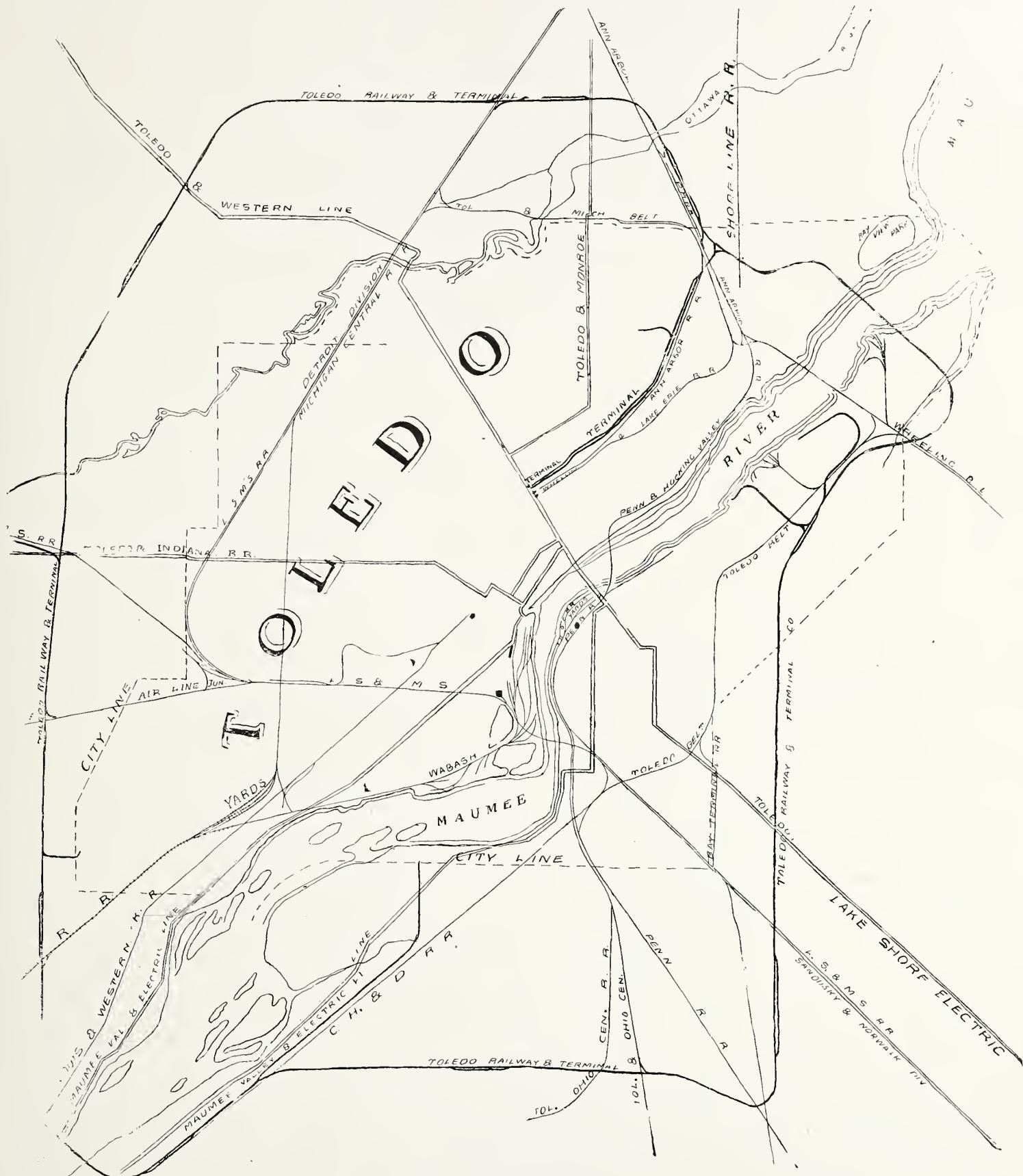
their hunting camps along the Scioto and other streams of Franklin County for several years after the war of 1812 was closed. I have often heard my father, David Taylor, who came to Franklin County in 1807, say that they came to hunt in that county as late as 1820; and one hunter in particular, with whom my father was well acquainted, and who was known to the white people by the name of "Billy Wyandot," maintained his camp every winter at the first ravine north of the National Road, on the west bank of Walnut Creek, where there was, and now is, a fine spring.

It is more than 150 years since the first white man, of which we have knowledge, passed through Franklinton. In 1751 Christopher Gist, accompanied by George Croughton and Andrew Montour, passed over the Indian trail, from the forks of the Ohio to the Indian's towns on the Miami. Gist was the agent of an English and Virginia land company. On January 17, 1751, he and his party were at the great swamp in what is now Licking County, known to us as the "Pigeon Roost," or "Bloody Run Swamp," which is five miles northwest from the Licking Reservoir and one-half mile south of the line of the National Road. From thence they proceeded to the Miami towns, which were in the region of Xenia and Springfield. This trail led them over or very near to the site of Columbus. We have reason to believe that they crossed the Scioto at or near the mouth of the Olentangy.

The next white man that we know of, who did certainly pass along the Scioto River, was James Smith, who was a captive among the Indians, and who hunted and camped with them on the Darby, somewhere in the neighborhood of Plain City, as early as 1757. What is now called the Darby was then the Olentangy, and Smith, with his Indian companion, hunted and trapped along the Darby and the Scioto, both in the winter of 1757 and 1758. In his narrative we learn that at the end of the first winter's hunt they made a bark canoe and started down the Olentangy (now the Darby), but as the water was low they were required to wait for high water. While waiting, the Chief, Tecaughretango, after having made his ablutions, prayed to the Great Spirit for rain. In a few days the rain came and raised the river so that they were able to proceed. The next year Smith made his escape back to his home in Virginia.



STREET SCENE IN PORT CLINTON, OTTAWA COUNTY.

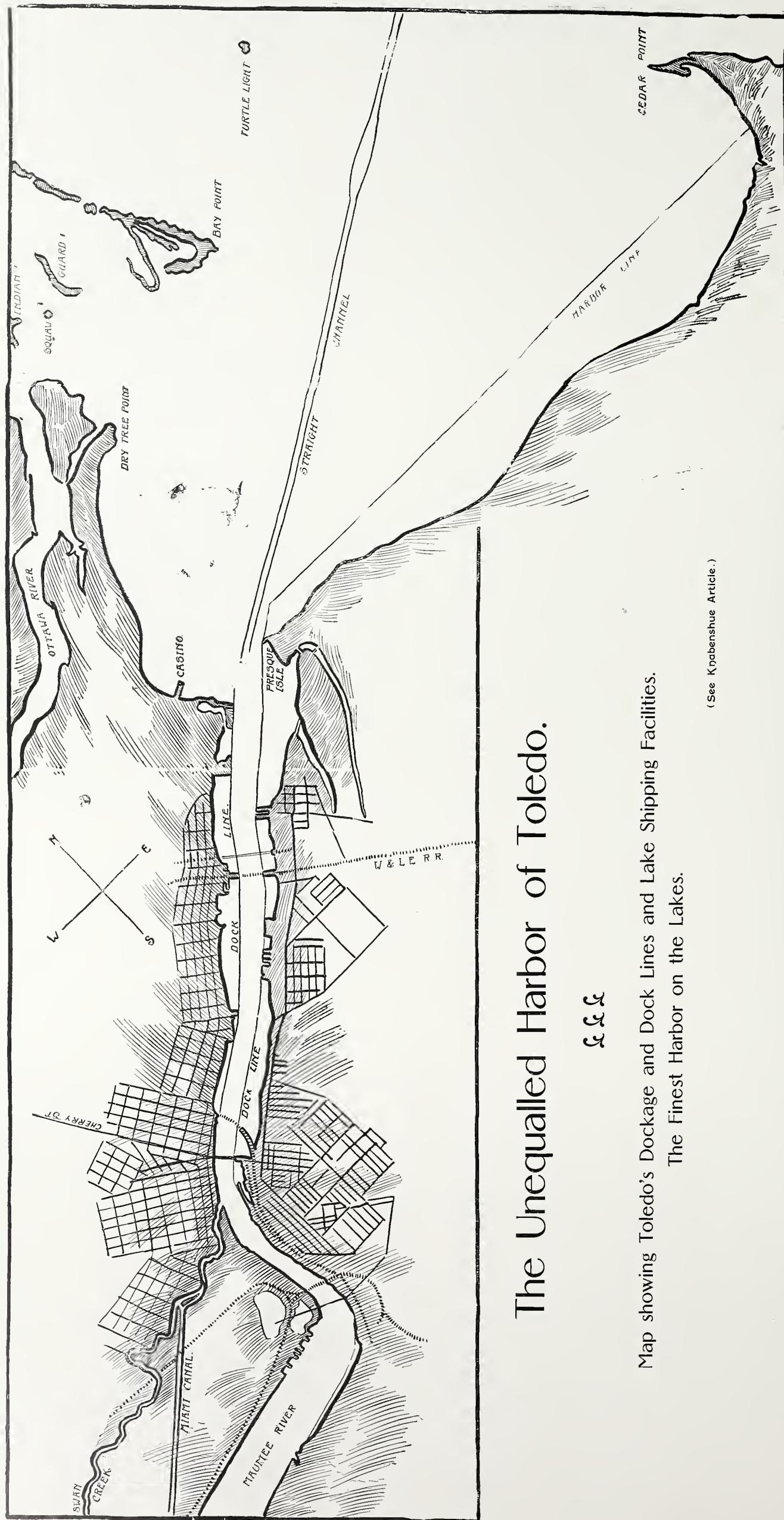


Toledo's Railways—Steam and Interurban.

222

Railroad Map of Toledo, showing the Terminals and Shipping Facilities for the greatest Railroad centre on the Lakes.

(See Knabenshue Article.)



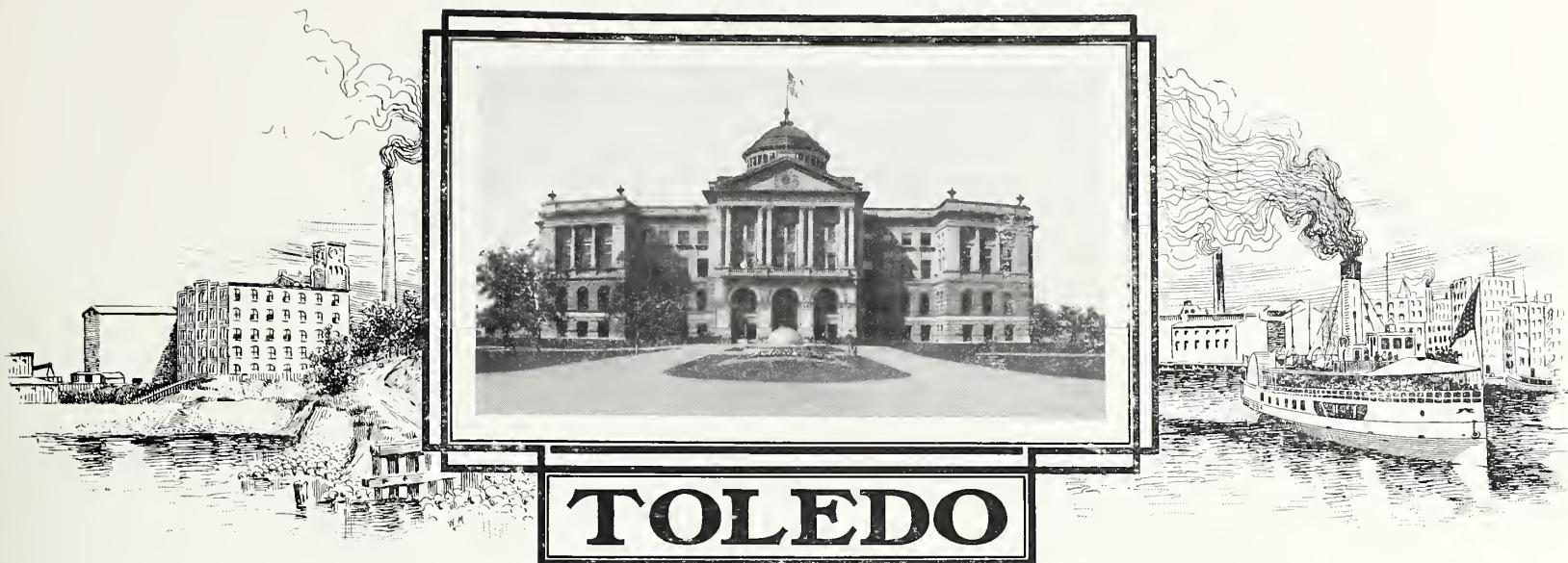
The Unequalled Harbor of Toledo.

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Map showing Toledo's Dockage and Dock Lines and Lake Shipping Facilities.

The Finest Harbor on the Lakes.

(See Knabenshue Article.)



TOLEDO

THE CITY OF TOLEDO.

By S. S. KNABENSHUE.

THE dawn of the twentieth century found Toledo the third city of Ohio in population, and with an increase of over 61 per cent. in her numbers within the previous decade. Her total of 131,000 people in 1900 has grown to over 150,000 in 1903, and the steady increase promises her a population of nearly a quarter of a million by the census year of 1910.

This is no mushroom growth, promoted by speculation, but the result of the working of natural laws. The greatest commercial and industrial activity in the United States is found in a belt roughly bounded by the parallels of 40 and 42 degrees north latitude. The most direct through lines of transportation between the East and the West are within these boundaries. The largest cities, the largest manufacturing areas are to be found in this zone. Lake Erie lying with its longest diameter east and west, has its southern shore skirted by the great Vanderbilt system of railroads; and the conjunction of lake and railway is one of the great factors of location which gives Toledo her superiority as a manufacturing and commercial city. For both, transportation is a vital necessity, and the complex system of railways centering in Toledo, radiating in every direction, reaching all sections of the country, combined with her facilities for lake commerce, are the factors of first importance in her rapid and solid growth and abounding prosperity.

The inspection of the railway map prepares one to accept the statement that Toledo is the greatest railway center in Ohio, and one of the greatest in the United States. That is, more different lines of steam railroads enter Toledo than any other Ohio city can boast. The map also shows the two belt lines—the route of the Terminal Company making a sort of framework for the map itself, and the inner belt being marked by a dotted line, where it does not use the tracks of other roads.

Beginning at the lower left-hand corner of the map, on the eastern side of the Maumee river, we have the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton, running to Cincinnati, where it has traffic connections to New Orleans and all other important southern points. Next comes the Ohio Central, which separates just beyond the city limits into two divisions, the western running through Columbus to Thurston, where it connects with the eastern division. The latter goes through Bucyrus and other points, and thence traverses the coal fields of southern Ohio to the Ohio river, reaching it at Middleport and Pomeroy. These two divisions pass through entirely different sections of country, and are really two different roads for Toledo commerce.

Next is the Hocking Valley, running from Toledo across the state, passing through Columbus, the rich coal fields of the Hocking valley, to Gallipolis, Middleport and Pomeroy on the Ohio.

Then come the great Pennsylvania system, northwestern division, running from Toledo through Mansfield to Pittsburg, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington.

Next come the two eastern divisions of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern, the one passing through Fremont and Norwalk, the other along the shore of Lake Erie through Port Clinton and Sandusky, the two coming together at Elyria and thence running to Cleveland, Buffalo and New York.



STEEDMAN MONUMENT.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



OFFICE OF THE WOOLSON SPICE COMPANY, HURON AND JACKSON STREETS.

The remaining steam railway on the east side of the river is the Wheeling & Lake Erie, which reaches Wheeling, its route being diagonally across Ohio. This, by the recent purchase, has become part of the Gould system. By a line now under construction it will enter Pittsburgh, and thence over other roads acquired by the Gould interests, will reach the Atlantic seaboard at Baltimore. The Wheeling & Lake Erie will eventually become a part of a new transcontinental route, the Wabash being the portion west of Toledo.

On the western side of the Maumee river the first road is the Detroit & Toledo Shore Line, a new road, which is now owned jointly by the Clover Leaf and the great Grand Trunk railway of Canada, thus giving Toledo an outlet over the latter system.

Next come the Pere Marquette, a very active Michigan line, and the Ann Arbor, extending from Toledo to Frankfort, and bisecting the lower peninsula of Michigan.

Another Michigan road, the Detroit, Toledo & Milwaukee, reaching Detroit, Jackson and Grand Rapids, enters Toledo over the Lake Shore tracks from Monroe.

Next on the map is the Michigan Central, from Detroit, and the Detroit division of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern. Their tracks run side by side between the two cities and into Toledo.

Next are the two western divisions of the Lake Shore system. The northerly one is the Michigan Southern, or "old road," running northwest through Michigan and thence to Elkhart, Indiana. The



R. A. BARTLEY, WHOLESALE GROCER, SUMMIT AND CHERRY STREETS.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



LAMSON BROTHERS' DRY GOODS HOUSE.

other is the Air Line, running directly west across Ohio and Indiana to Elkhart and thence the two lines go to Chicago.

Next is the "Clover Leaf"—the Toledo, St. Louis & Western, which runs southwesterly from this city across Ohio, Indiana and Illinois to St. Louis.

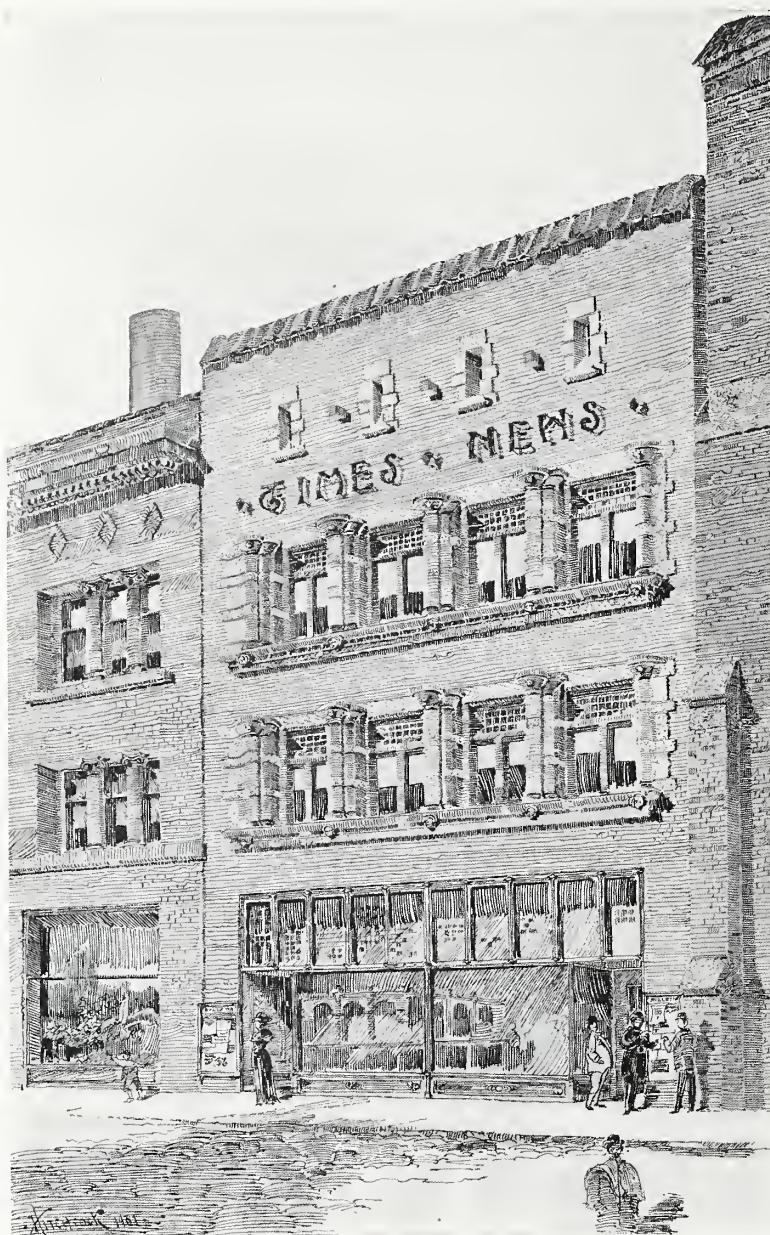
Last comes the great Wabash system, also reaching St. Louis and other important western and southwestern points, which is, as remarked above, to reach the Pacific coast by other Gould lines. The right of way through the heart of Toledo has been obtained, and a "cross town line" will connect the Wabash with its eastern division, the Wheeling & Lake Erie. This connection will be for passenger, express and mail business, and a central depot will be erected within a square of the court-house in Toledo, to accommodate this traffic.

This gives a total of sixteen lines, each traversing an entirely different section of the country, and affording unrivaled facilities for the shipment of the products of Toledo industries, the distribution of merchandise by wholesalers, and for the great incoming traffic. Were one to count also the branches of these roads which center here—such as the Findlay and the Bowling Green branches of the C. H. & D.—the number might be materially increased.

Besides the above, the Detroit Southern, which extends from that city to Ironton, on the Ohio River, is preparing to build a Toledo branch, and has acquired a dock site on the Maumee, just above the Wheeling & Lake Erie bridge.

The inner belt is made up of a line of track connecting the Lake Shore, Wheeling & Lake Erie and Ann Arbor tracks, by which freight can be switched from any road to any other.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



THE "TIMES NEWS-BEE" BUILDING
Superior Street.



WALDING, KINNAN & MARVIN BUILDING,
Wholesale Druggists.

The Terminal Belt Railway is about thirty miles in length, and encircles the entire city, crossing the Maumee twice on its own bridges. It, of course, crosses every railway track entering the city, and connects at each crossing point. The purpose of the Toledo Railway & Terminal company, which built it, is threefold: First, to furnish unequalled switching facilities from any line to any other line at low cost; second, a great central passenger and freight terminal now being erected just west of the Ann Arbor depot, and covering two squares; and, third, to furnish sites for factories of any kind, on its line, thus giving direct connection with every railway in the city, for convenience in bringing in raw material and shipping the finished product.

The application of electricity as motive power for inter-urban traffic is a new thing, yet its development has been



NASBY BUILDING.
The Walbridge Building Company, Owners.

phenomenal. Toledo has already six of these lines, all of which are shown on the map. The first is the Detroit, Toledo & Monroe, running to Monroe and Detroit; the Toledo & Western, through Sylvania and Blissfield to Adrian; the Toledo & Indiana, now operating as far west as Wauseon; the Maumee Valley Railways and Light Company, whose belt line runs up the west bank of the river to Maumee, crosses to Perrysburg, and returns on the east side of the river, with an extension from Maumee to Waterville; the Toledo, Bowling Green & Southern Traction company, which uses the Maumee belt tracks into Toledo from Perrysburg, and extends through Bowling Green to Findlay; and the Lake Shore Electric, which extends

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



BARBOUR & STARR LUMBER YARD AND DOCKS.



OFFICE OF GENDRON WHEEL COMPANY.
Superior Street.



THE LABORATORY OF THE CHENEY MEDICINE COMPANY.
Adams Street.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



THE NEW "TOLEDO BLADE" BUILDING.

Company owns all the street railways of the city. It operates within a fraction of 100 miles of tracks, on which it has 141 closed cars and 103 open cars. This company is a reorganization of the Toledo Traction Company, effected in 1901. This company also owns the entire capital stock of the Toledo & Maumee Valley company, an interurban belt line. Mr. Henry E. Everett, is the President and Louis A. Beilstein, Vice-President and General Manager. Extensive improvements in the way of track extensions and doubling, and in additions to equipment, rendered necessary by the growth of the City in population and the consequent increase in the company's business, are contemplated in the near future.

The splendid railway system of Toledo finds its fitting complement in her remarkable harbor. No other city on the chain of the Great Lakes has so much water-front available for commodious and easily accessible wharves. Duluth is the only other city, according to government charts, which has a harbor that will compare with Toledo in that respect. Toledo has a shore line available for this purpose equal to almost all of the other Lake Erie ports. As regards safety, the Toledo harbor is the only one which is at the same time entirely safe, deep and commodious.

Toledo's harbor, unsurpassed in natural advantages, is an assurance of this city's ultimate commercial supremacy on Lake Erie. If this were not one of the greatest railway centers in the country and if there were no other natural attractions here for industrial development, still the room for ample wharves here would be sufficient foundation for a great city.

Pickand & Mathers' new million dollar blast furnace and the Cleveland Iron Cliffs Company's purchase, are but the advance guard of the great iron industries which are coming to Toledo. There is comparatively little undeveloped dock facilities at Cleveland, and these two big concerns have located here simply because there is no more room at that city. Of course the superior railway facilities of Toledo are also an important factor, but it would be possible to build railroads if a city had the harbor that Toledo has.

Toledo's great natural harbor is largely responsible for the extension of a number of the railways to this city. Railway builders realized years ago that the wharfage of this city is far in excess of any other lower lake ports and shaped their policy accordingly. In this connection it may be mentioned that the Pennsylvania, with its usual farsighted policy, has acquired two miles and a quarter of dock front at Toledo. This includes that which is owned by the Manufacturers' railway.

through Fremont, Norwalk and Lorain to Cleveland. The cars of all these lines reach an union passenger station, corner Adams and Superior streets.

Work is being prosecuted on the tracks of the Toledo Urban & Interurban company's lines. This company proposes to do for the electric interurban lines what the Terminal Belt does for steam roads. Its right of way enters the city alongside that of the Wabash cross-town line, and a large station will be erected on Washington street. Its line runs to Maumee, then crosses the river on a new bridge, which will be strong enough for the trains of a steam road.

Another great interurban line will soon be added to the above, the Toledo, Columbus, Springfield and Cincinnati, whose general offices are in the Spitzer building. Mr. Ellis Bartholomew is the president and general manager. Its line, when completed, will be 282 miles in length, running from Toledo through Lima and Bellefontaine to Columbus, thence to Springfield and Cincinnati. This line passes through the most fertile sections of the state and has seventy-five towns and villages on its line. The total population through the region traversed is 867,866 and the road will be one of the most profitable interurban lines in the country.

The street-car facilities of Toledo are excellent. The Toledo Railways & Light



M. I. WILCOX'S TEAM OF ARABIAN BEAUTIES.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.

Not a foot of this dock is being used by the Pennsylvania and this immense investment is made with a view of future developments by this giant corporation. It means that eventually Toledo is to be the great water outlet for the immense Pennsylvania system.

Straight line measurements, according to the government charts, show that there are 52 miles of available water front at this port. Most of it, strange as it may seem, is naturally superior to that which is in use now. At a comparatively small expense of dredging, docks can be built extending as far out as Cedar Point on the east side of the Maumee bay, to Ten Mile creek or Ottawa river on the west side. The dock line has been established on the Maumee river as far up as the waterworks and Ford's glass works. Of course, the dock line will be eventually extended up to Perrysburg and Maumee, but taking straight line measurements, not allowing for slips and the lengthening of the dock line by the curvature of the shores of the river and bay, here is the available dock frontage:

Ford's Glass Works to Cedar Point,	17 miles
Water Works to Ottawa River,	- 12 miles
Both sides of Swan Creek,	- - - 7 miles
Both sides of Ottawa River,	- - 10 miles
Both sides of Ottar Creek,	- - - 4 miles
Both sides of Duck Creek,	- - 2 miles

Total, 52 miles

These figures are a very conservative statement of the resources of the Toledo harbor. The entire Maumee Bay is a harbor, and the Ottawa river today has greater depth of water than the Maumee had when the government began to dredge it. Then there is what is known as Detwiler's ditch, back of the Casino, which will be dredged, adding two or three miles to the available docks of the port. By going up the Maumee river to Perrysburg, Ottawa river and Swan creek to the probable



THE LASALLE & KOCH COMPANY.

Ohio's leading silk house. Jefferson and Superior Streets.

limit of dredging, and making a conservative estimate to additions for slips and inlets, it is possible to raise this estimate almost 100 miles.

In the development of these immense dock facilities it will be necessary to fill the space between the established dock line and the shore, as it exists at present. This will do two things. It will deepen the harbor and make new land for the owners of the water front.

By consulting the government charts, it will be noted that new land which will make this process, is far in excess of the vacant property which now exists on the water front.



THE DOW & S NELL COMPANY'S BLOCK, CHERRY STREET.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



TOLEDO AUTOMOBILE FACTORY.

The location of Toledo at the western end of Lake Erie, makes it the natural grain market for a vast extent of the interior, embracing a large portion of the great winter wheat states; and for the eastern end of the corn belt. Her grain trade has always been a very prominent factor in her commerce. There are eleven grain elevators in Toledo. Three of these belong to the Wabash, one each to the Lake Shore, the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton and the Michigan Central, two to the Toledo Elevator Co. and one each to the National Milling Co., the Iron Elevator Co. and the East Side Iron Elevator Co. Besides these, there is elevator room in the mills of the city for 100,000 bushels, giving an aggregate storage capacity of 7,410,000 bushels of grain.

Toledo is the principal clover seed market of the world. This follows from its location, it being the most convenient shipping point, as the bulk of the clover seed in the United States is produced in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Southern Michigan and in portions of Kentucky. It is the only clover seed market whose quotations are sent out daily by the press associations, and the weekly receipts and shipments are cabled to Europe by the Reuter news agency. The receipts last year were 96,000 bags of $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels each; for 1901, 131,000 bags; for 1900, 70,000 bags; for 1899, 145,000 bags and for 1898, 200,000 bags. No less than seven firms devote attention to clover seed, Churchill & Co., W. H. Morehouse & Co., S. W. Flower & Co., Crumbaugh & Kuehn, Henry Philipps Seed and Implement Co., Cratz Bros. and the Toledo Field Seed Co.

The vast industrial and commercial interests of Toledo require immense capital and large banking facilities. There has been nothing more remarkable in the astonishing development of Toledo within the past two decades than the growth of the banking business. In 1883, it was one of the poorest cities of its size, in the United States, but the discovery of oil and natural gas in northwestern Ohio proved a veritable gold mine, and hundreds of thousands of dollars found their way into local banks. Then came the wonderful development of the bicycle industry and so long as it flourished it furnished another great source of wealth.

The total loans and deposits in Toledo banks 20 years ago were scarcely more than \$5,000,000 and today, the nineteen banks show a total of \$25,745,406 in loans, and \$24,623,275 in deposits. Of the loans the savings banks contribute \$11,822,119 and the national banks \$13,923,287. Of the deposits the savings banks are credited with \$11,708,210 and the national banks with \$12,915,064.

The dock line between Presque Isle and Cedar Point will be from half a mile to a mile from the present shore line. In course of the development of the industries in this section all of this, and more, too, will be filled. It will be a cheap way to secure land for desirable industrial sites. Taking the entire dock front of 52 miles, it is estimated that the area of this new land will be equal to that of the built up portions of the city of Toledo.

It is thus seen that there is ample room for any number of great industrial plants on the water front and all convenient to railway connections, for those which must avail themselves of both lake and rail for transportation. All the wharves, present and potential, are reached with ease by rail; examples of this are the Ohio Central, Hocking Valley and Pennsylvania docks. Vessels from the Lake Superior region unload their ore on the wharves along the lines of track, and then take on return cargoes of coal direct from the cars.



FLOUR MILL, NATIONAL MILLING COMPANY.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.

The national banks of Toledo have long been established and occupy permanent places in the local financial system. There is not a weakling in the half dozen, while, combined, they could make a better showing than any other six national banks in Ohio. The Second National stands first in the state in point of strength, and the First National third. In fact there are fewer than sixty national banks in the United States stronger than the Second National, of Toledo. With a capital of only \$350,000, it shows a surplus and undivided profit account of nearly a million dollars, giving every share, of \$100 par value, an actual book value of nearly \$375. The six banks have a combined capital of \$2,250,000, and a surplus and undivided profit account of \$2,744,538.06, giving to every share an average book value of \$222.

Of the thirteen savings banks, the Toledo Savings Bank & Trust Co., and the Merchants and Clerks Savings Bank are the oldest and the former the strongest, with a capital of \$100,000 and a surplus of over \$200,000, giving it a book



TOLEDO GLASS WORKS.

value of \$300. Then comes the Union, the Home and the Ohio Savings in point of age. The growth of the Ohio Savings has been phenomenal, its balances having passed the three million mark months ago. All of these older institutions have had a vigorous and healthy growth stimulated by wise and conservative management. The younger banks have, for the most part, passed the struggling period and are recognized as factors in Toledo's financial system. The combined capital of the thirteen is \$1,934,900, and the surplus and undivided profit fund \$806,132, making an average book value per share of \$141.

There is on deposit in Toledo banks an amount that if distributed, would give every man, woman and child within the corporate limits \$140. On the other hand if the debts of individuals to the banks were distributed with equal precision among all Toledoans, the average would be over \$147, assuming that Toledo has a population not exceeding 175,000.

It is not so many years since well known business men, commenting on the establishment of a new savings bank in Toledo, predicted that it would not make a success because there were already enough banks in the city to care for the



OLD LUCAS COUNTY JAIL ON WATER STREET.

business. At that time there were six national banks, as now, and but two savings banks. But the new comer was given a hearty reception and grew rapidly in popular favor. Another and another were established until today there are thirteen savings banks, in addition to the six national banks.

The list of national banks comprises the First National, Second National, Northern National, Holcomb National, Merchants National and the National Bank of Commerce. In order for a national bank to be placed on the roll of honor, it must have a surplus and undivided profit account equal to its capital. In other words, its stock must show on its books an actual value of \$200 per share of par value \$100. The roll of



SECTIONAL VIEW OF FORD GLASS WORKS, ROSSFORD.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



FOUNDRY OF THE NATIONAL MALLEABLE CASTINGS COMPANY.

population since 1887 has developed the West End most wonderfully. There are miles of streets and avenues, on which every residence is thoroughly modern, having been erected within that period, on ground which then was either forest or field. The great trees of the original woodland have been left standing wherever possible, and add a charm seldom found in newly built residence sections.

But the advantages of Toledo as a place of residence do not end with modern houses, with every convenience, on well-paved and well-lighted streets. It is a good place to rear a family. The public schools are among the best in the state with the high and manual training schools at the head of the system. The public library is notable as one of the best in Ohio. All the leading denominations are represented among Toledo's many churches. And in the matter of climate Toledo is exceptionally favored; Lake Erie is near enough to exert a powerful influence in modifying the intense summer heats and in prolonging the pleasant weather of autumnal days, yet far enough away to protect from the violence of the raw lake winds, such as make it so unpleasant in cities directly on the lake shore, like Chicago and Cleveland.

Then, too, the opportunities for amusement are ample. The beautiful Valentine Theatre, one of the finest in the United States, brings here the very best in the theatrical line, while Burt's, the Empire, the Lyceum and the Arcade add their attractions during the season. The Casino, the Farm and the Bellevue are high-class summer theatres, attracting not only Toledo residents but the summer visitors who come to Toledo from inland points. This has become one of the great excursion points of the lake region. Thousands come here from the interior, either to visit Toledo itself, or to go by boat to the Lake Erie Islands, or up the lakes.

A Retrospect of Lucas County in Early Days.

Lucas County occupies a conspicuous place in the annals of what was once known as the Northwest Territory. It may be said to be the very center of a wide region of hallowed ground, consecrated in the blood of the patriots and pioneers of the closing years of the Eighteenth and the opening of the Nineteenth Century. Those years were prolific with scenes of carnage, of rapine, of torture, of untold sufferings, of desperate conflict, of indescribable and bitter hostility at the hands of a merciless and savage foe, aided and abetted by the power of Great Britain. Within a circuit of less than 100 miles from the present

honor for 1902 added to this roll from Toledo the Northern National, making three in all. For years, the Second National bank has ranked first in the state and well up on the roll of honor, while the First National has been rated second or third in the state. The addition of the Northern National bank to the roll is gratifying to the officers, reflecting credit on their wise and efficient management. There are only twenty-four Ohio banks on the roll, and of these, Cincinnati claims three, the same number as Toledo, although the latter's rank much higher.

The record of Toledo's six national banks is phenomenal. There is not a weak one in the six and all are noted for their conservative and able management. During the panic of '92, when many banks in all parts of the country were flying the flag of distress, Toledo's Big Six rode through the storm and emerged without a scratch.

Toledo is noted as an ideal residence city. The rapid growth in



MAUMEE ROLLING MILLS OF THE REPUBLIC IRON & STEEL COMPANY.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



RESIDENCE OF THE LATE D. R. LOCKE, "PETROLEUM V. NASBY."
Jefferson Street.

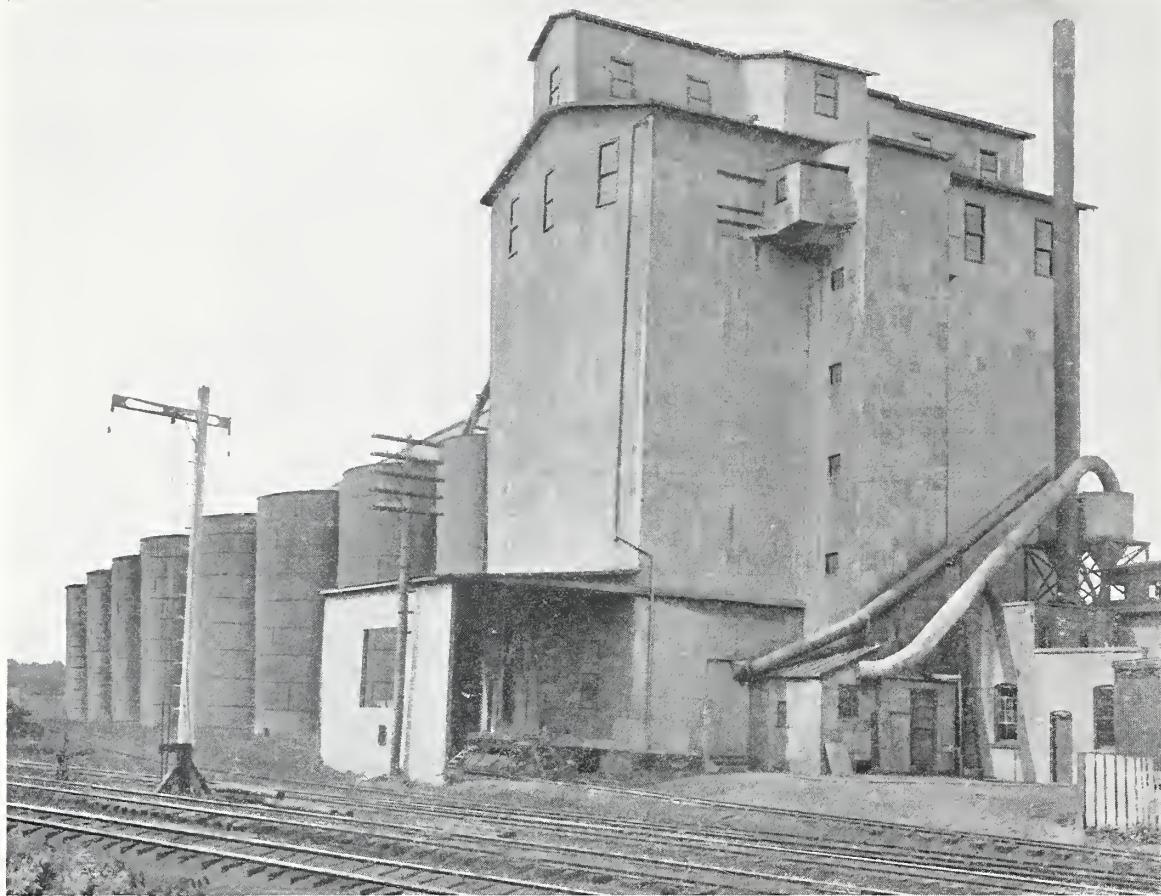
confines of Lucas County, history records the bloody massacre on the River Raisin, the battles at different points along the Maumee, the ill-fated expeditions of Harmer and St. Clair, the savage exploits of Simon Girty, the burning of Colonel Crawford, the battle of Fallen Timbers, the gallant defense of Colonel Croghan, the siege of Detroit, the battle of the Thames in Upper Canada, the triumph of Perry on Lake Erie, the prolonged and gallant defense of Fort Meigs, and many other conflicts that have made this region as classic in American annals as that of the Rubicon, Thermopylae, Marathon, Austerlitz, or Waterloo in the Old World.

The fierce struggles with the savage Indian tribes, inspired as they were by a bandit power in violation of the treaty of 1783, and the final triumph of American valor and patriotism has proven a greater factor in the progress of civilization, and embraces a wider range for the betterment of humanity than all the conflicts on European



RESIDENCE OF S. C. REYNOLDS.
Madison Street.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.

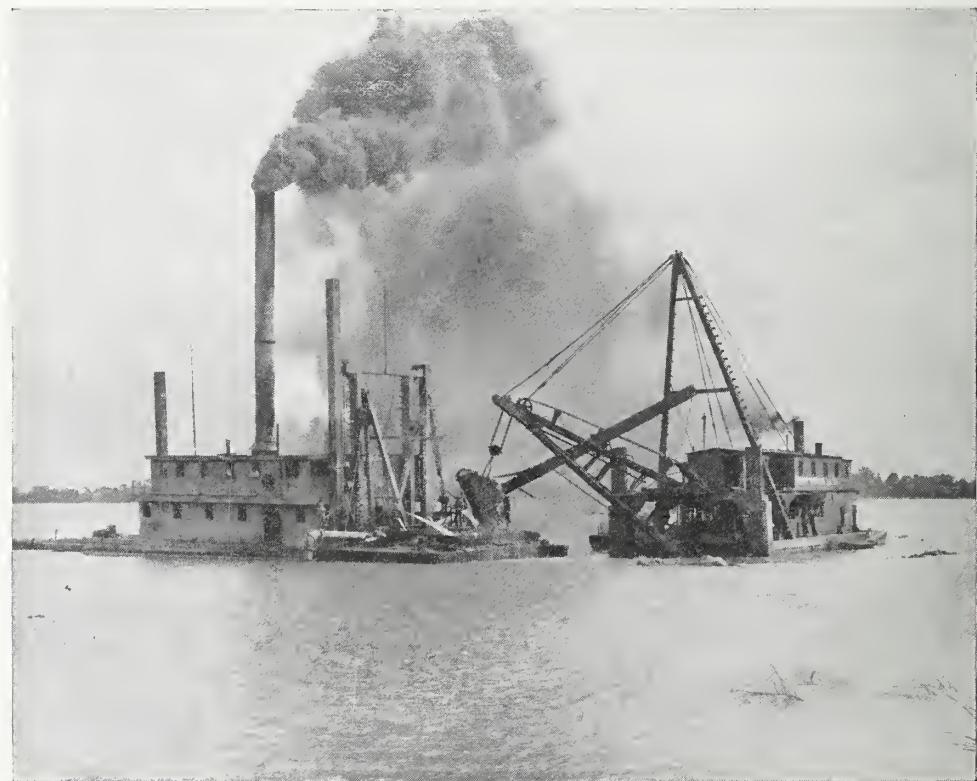


EAST-SIDE IRON ELEVATOR COMPANY'S PLANT.

was created by proclamation of General St. Clair, July 27, 1780. It embraced that portion of Ohio lying east of the Cuyahoga and Scioto Rivers. The second was called Hamilton and embraced that portion of Ohio lying between the Great Miami and Little Miami Rivers. It was also created by proclamation by General St. Clair. The third was known as Wayne County, created by proclamation by General Wayne, August 15, 1796, and embraced a most extensive stretch of territory, including Northwestern Ohio, parts of Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin, and the whole of the present State of Michigan. This territory, however, was divided by act of Congress in 1800, and all that part of it lying west of a line drawn from a point opposite the mouth of the Kentucky River, and running due north until it intersects the territorial line between the United States and Canada, was

battlefields combined. Such names as Wayne, Harrison, Croghan, Perry, and others, so closely identified with wrenching this territory from the grasp of the British invader and his savage allies, as benefactors the human race, shed a brighter lustre in the world's civilization than Cæsar, Hannibal, Alexander, Napoleon and others, whose names are emblazoned on history's page as military conquerors. The one class contributed to the upbuilding of a free people. The splendid results of their achievements are visible on every hand. The other class was the besom of destruction,—the agents of simple conquest and despotism. Millions today enjoy the blessings achieved in Northwestern Ohio by the toil, valor, suffering and blood of these gallant leaders and their brave followers, and their names will not perish from the memory of man while liberty endures.

There were but three county organizations originally in the entire Northwest Territory. The first was called Washington, and



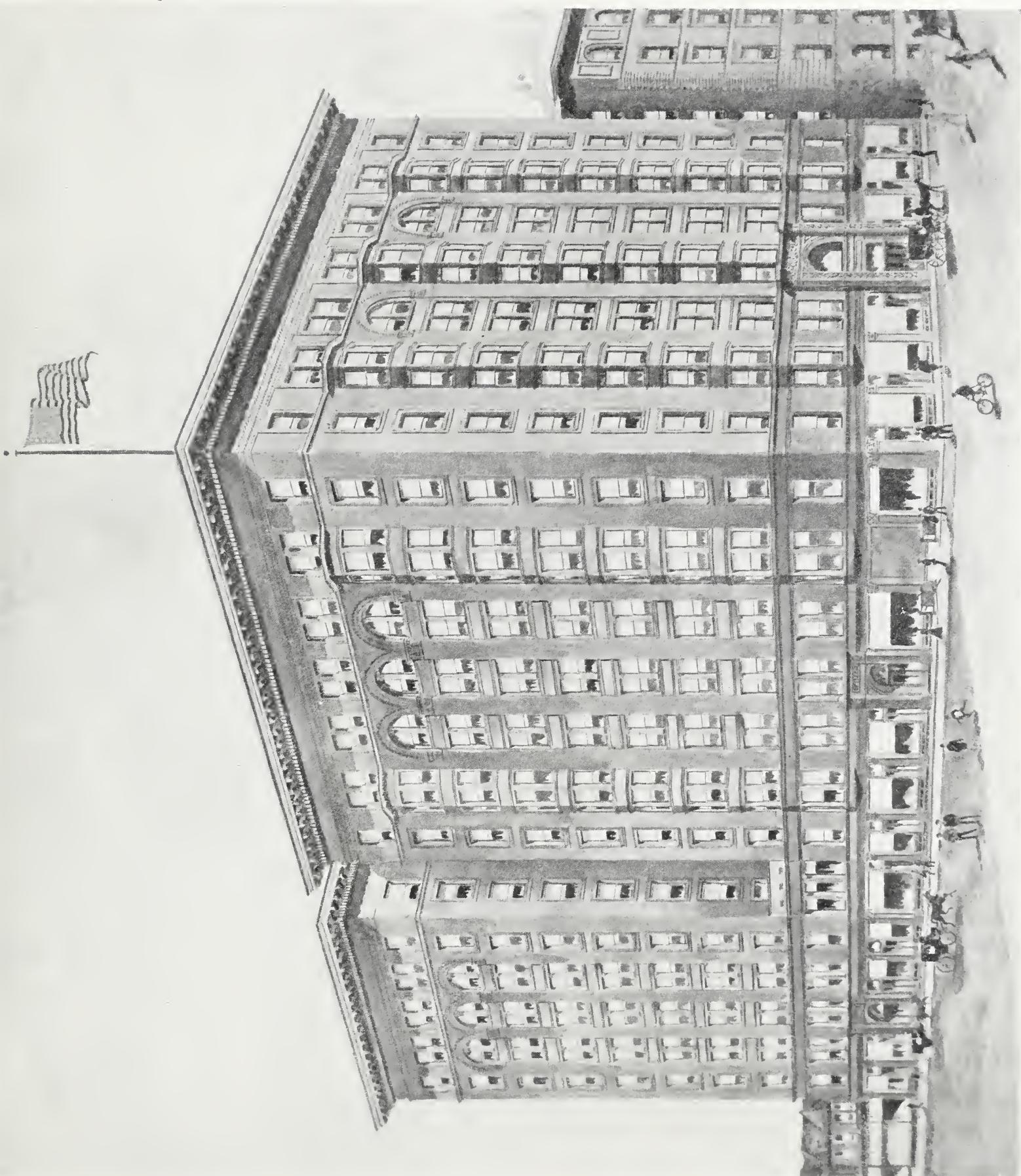
DREDGING THE MAUMEE RIVER.



A DREDGE FROM VULCAN IRON WORKS.

made to constitute a separate territory, and to be called Indiana. All east of the line was the Territory of Ohio. In the first constitutional convention of Ohio, all this northwestern portion of the State and the entire Maumee Valley, embraced in Wayne County, had no representation. Neither had it any representation in the first Ohio legislature, which met in Chillicothe in 1803. The legislature, however, recognized it as being within its jurisdiction for legislative purposes, and caused that portion of Wayne County known as the Maumee Valley, to be divided into counties, and these were named Greene and Franklin. Champaign was organized in 1805, and embraced this northwestern part of the State, with Urbana as the county seat,

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



THE SPITZER BUILDING.
One of the largest office buildings outside of Chicago and New York.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING.

The same year a law was passed by Congress enacting, that "all that part of Indiana territory, which lies north of a line drawn east from the southerly bend of the extreme of Lake Michigan, until it shall intersect Lake Erie,

shall constitute a separate territory, and be called Michigan." If this line had been established, a strip of land about seven miles in width, running from the western boundary of Ohio to Lake Erie, would have been included in the State of Michigan. This strip of land, 30 years later, became the bone of fierce contention between the state governments of Ohio and Michigan, and very nearly resulted in bloodshed. The conflict, however, which threatened such a sanguinary result, was bloodless, and soon culminated in the ridiculous. In history it is known as the "Toledo War," and whenever referred to its tendency is to create a smile. The Indian title to this territory was not wholly extinguished until 1820, when 14 counties were at once organized by the legislature, and much of the Maumee Valley was included in Wood County.

History and tradition record the fact that a greater number of bloody battles have been fought, and more



PUBLIC LIBRARY, MADISON AND ONTARIO STREETS.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



'INNISFAIL,' RESIDENCE OF C. M. SPITZER,
Collingwood Avenue.

treasure expended for the possession of this rich and lovely region, perhaps, than any similar extent of territory in the Western World. It was in this vicinity that Pontiac hurled his Indian hordes against the white settlers with savage fury. In this vicinity Mad Anthony Wayne, with his fiery impetuosity, dashed his little army against the savage clans at Fallen Timbers, and crushed them with a disaster from which they never wholly recovered. The massacre of the River Raisin, the bloody butchery of Colonel Dudley's command, the seige of Fort Meigs, and many other conflicts of lesser note, fully entitle this region to the appellation of the "bloody ground." In the numerous Indian wars, the war between the French and the Indians, the French and the English, the English and the Indians, the United States and Great Britain, and the United States and the Indians, many severe battles were fought in the Maumee Valley and its western extension. Many others were fought in this immediate vicinity, the direct result of which opened up to civilization an area of a million square miles of territory, now teeming with an active, energetic and prosperous people.

Within the present limits of Lucas County, among the monuments and relics of "grim-visaged war," may be named the old British redoubt, known as Fort Miami, near the Children's Home; a small earthwork built by General Wayne at



RESIDENCE OF E. D. LIBBEY,
Scottwood Avenue.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



THE COUNTRY CLUB.

post was located on the site of Fort Industry as early as 1680, and most reliable authority leads to the conclusion that it was occupied many years earlier, even before LaSalle came down the river in 1669-1671—probably 1640-1648—when the French escorted the Hurons to the Miami Confederation.

Fort Miami, or Campbell, situated near the Children's Home, was rebuilt by the British in 1763, after its surrender by the French. It was a regular military work, mounting fourteen guns; four nine-pounders on the river side, six six-pounders on the land side, also two large howitzers and two swivels, and was surrounded with a deep ditch, with horizontal pickets projecting over it. It was, without doubt, the strongest fort ever built in the valley. It has been frequently confounded with Fort Miami, at the head of the Maumee. Fort Wayne, and some writers have ascribed transactions at one which in reality occurred at the other.

Fort Deposit was a mere temporary affair, also built by General Wayne, where Waterville now stands. It was nothing more than a receptacle for the military stores and baggage, pending the battle of Fallen Timbers, which shortly followed. No trace of it can now be found. As it was used only as a place of rendezvous and storage, it could hardly be classed as a fort, although it was so called by General Wayne in his official report.

In Swanton Township, on the southwest quarter of Section 5, on the west bank of the northeast branch of Swan Creek, was a stockade, and to the westward are several elevations which look as if they might have been constructed for rifle pits. The timbers of this stockade throughout the enclosed area were plainly visible in 1835. When, or by whom this stockade was built is not now known. Toward the mouth of Swan Creek were also the remains of what were evidently earthworks, but of which we have no definite knowledge.

Within the present limits of Toledo, at some unknown period of time, a fortification was erected on the neck of land formerly

Waterville, called Fort Deposit, and Fort Industry, near the corner of Monroe and Summit Streets, Toledo, rebuilt by General Wayne in 1794. An excellent paper, by Chas E. Bliven, some twenty-five years ago, now probably in the archives of the Maumee Valley Pioneer and Monumental Association, says, "that in 1796 General Wayne, or rather Colonel Hamtramck, took possession of Fort Miami, or Campbell, also of Detroit, or Mackinac, rebuilt Fort Industry, and the latter was garrisoned ten or twelve years. It consisted of a blockhouse, surrounded by a stockade, standing in the center of a clearing of about four acres. What was known as the Fisher-Eaton Bee Hive Store occupied probably the central portion of this stockade, and may have extended as far back as St. Clair Street. At that time the shore of the river was much nearer the location of the fort than now. On the north side of Monroe Street there was a very precipitous bluff, forming the original bank of Swan Creek. Evidence is also abundant that a French trading



RESIDENCE OF V. W. GRANGER,
Superior Street.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



PAVILION AT WALBRIDGE PARK.

known as "Whittlesey's Point," between Swan Creek and the river, but every trace of it has about disappeared owing to the grading of streets. It followed substantially the course of Clayton Street, extended to the river. It was familiar to the residents of Toledo as late as 1840. It was an embankment five or six feet high and ten or twelve feet across the top, on which quite large trees had grown. About where Broadway crosses there was an opening somewhat higher on each side, as if it had been an arched or covered gateway. A ditch was on the inner side. A division embankment extended from the main line to opposite the point or sharp bend in the creek, dividing the enclosure into two nearly equal parts.

A history of Lucas County would be incomplete without a passing note of two intrepid characters, who took no small part in the tragic events of the border history of Toledo and the Maumee Valley. About the year 1807 or 1808 a French settlement was established on the Maumee opposite Manhattan. Among those settlers was Peter Navarre, born in Detroit in 1786. He was a grandson of Robert de Navarre, who came to America in 1745. Peter Navarre joined Hull's army and went to Detroit. He returned to the River Raisin and enlisted in Colonel Anderson's regiment. This



DRIVEWAY IN WALBRIDGE PARK.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



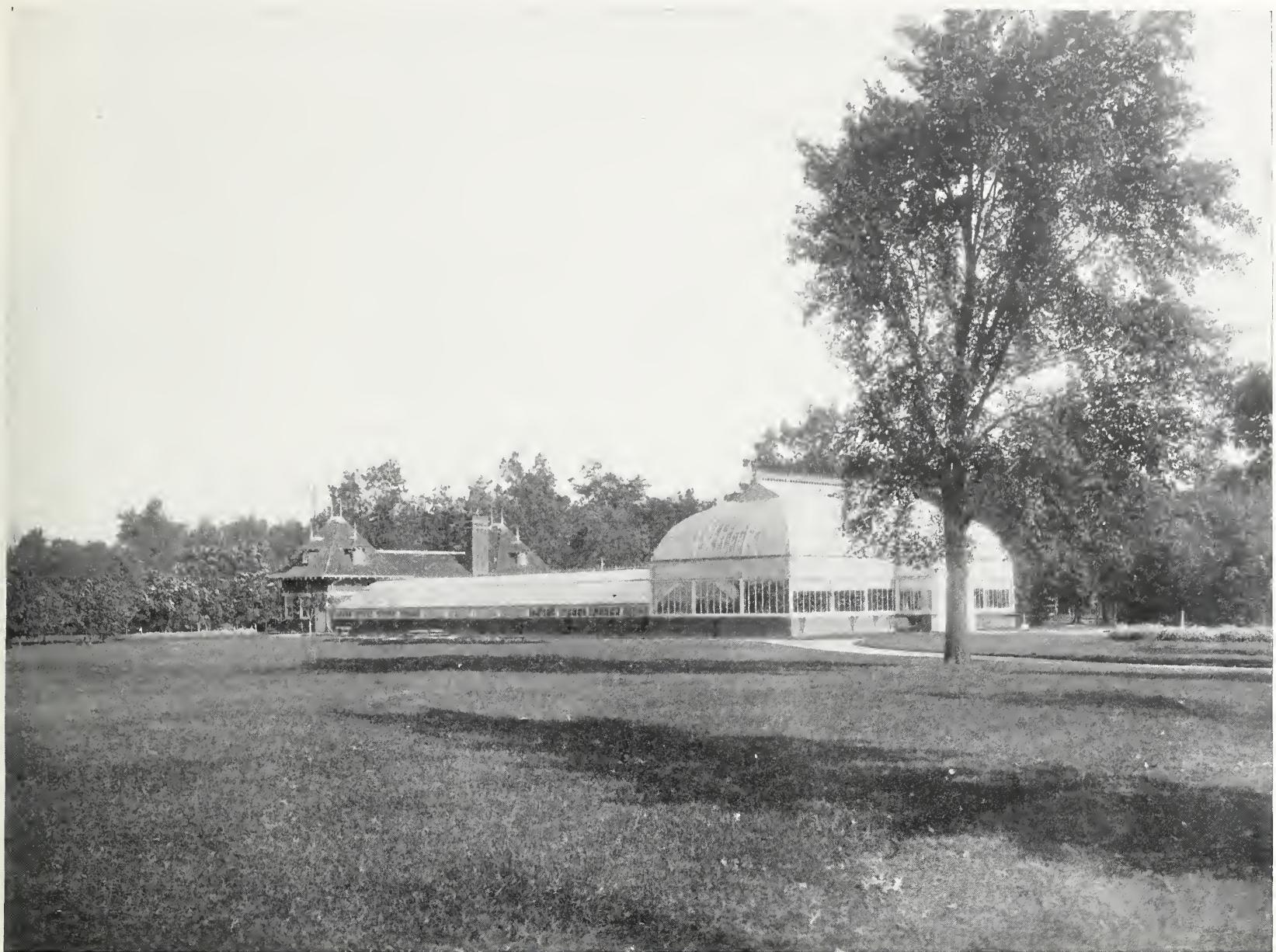
RIVERSIDE PARK.

command was included in Hull's ignominious surrender. He was afterwards liberated, with his four brothers, on parole. He served as a scout for General Harrison at Fort Meigs. Navarre discovered the Indians crossing the river when the enemy first appeared opposite the fort. He reported at once to General Harrison, who immediately sent him with three letters, one for Lower Sandusky, another for Upper Sandusky, and the third to Governor Meigs, at Urbana. His mission was successfully accomplished, the governor receiving his letter near the close of the fifth day. General Proctor offered a reward of \$1,000 for Navarre's head, but the Indians claimed it was impossible to capture the wily scout. Navarre received a pension of \$8 per month from the government to the day of his death. It was Peter Manor who first brought news of the declaration of war with Great Britain to the settlers along the Maumee, and the first they heard of the shameful surrender of Hull at Detroit was from a band of sixty or seventy Delaware Indians on their march



PAVILION AT OTTAWA PARK.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



CONSERVATORY, WALBRIDGE PARK

to Fort Wayne in advance of the main army. Manor was standing in front of Beaugrand's store in Maumee City, talking with some of his neighbors, when the Indians came out of the woods and were about to fire, when Beaugrand waved a white handkerchief, at which they dropped their muskets. Soon afterward one hundred British soldiers, and as many Wyandots and Pottawatomies, came up, when the British commander inquired for guides. Manor was pressed into service, although he feigned to be very much disabled by lameness. He went as far as the head of the rapids, when he was dismissed. He returned to Beaugrand's, meeting Colonel Elliott, in command of the entire British force, who examined him thoroughly, and then permitted him to go. He started to join his family at the mouth of the river, but was captured when he reached Swan Creek, by a British officer in command of two vessels lying there. He was imprisoned, until Beaugrand interposed in his behalf, and secured his release. It was not until the close



IN WALBRIDGE PARK

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



OTTAWA PARK.

the two towns of Vistula and Port Lawrence became united, and soon afterward took the name of Toledo.

Hon. Thomas W. Dunlap of Toledo, in his address delivered at the Centennial celebration in Toledo, July 4, 1876, speaking of this era, said: "Then speculation got ahead of prudence, and paper cities and paper money furnished facilities for discounting the great expectations of Lucas County and its future great cities. The early history of the county would be imperfect without a reference to the ruins of imaginary towns, so thickly strewn throughout its length and breadth. Maumee City, Miami, Marengo, East Marengo, Austerlitz, Port Lawrence, Vistula, Manhattan and Havre were projected on the north side of the river. Oregon and Lucas City sprang up on the south side. Like ancient Tyre the sites of Lucas City and Havre were swallowed up in the waters of the deep. The waters of the lake took off the sandy soil by the acre. Not so with Manhattan. A fate still more melancholy was in store for her. Her town lots became the prey of the tax-gatherer, who offered them in open market at three and six cents apiece, without finding buyers.

"Talk about the times that tried men's souls a hundred years ago! Those early times of Lucas County tried the very earth itself. The two Marengos, Austerlitz and Oregon could not stand the pressure of the tax-gatherer, and became known on the tax duplicate as lands, while Port Lawrence and Vistula, under the name of Toledo, with Manhattan,

Miami and Maumee City, went into a state of suspended animation to await the resurrection that followed the War of the Rebellion. Those times of suspended animation were indeed hard times. Those were the times when men stayed here because they had no money to get away with. They were the times of twenty-five cent postage, when many a man had to wait a week or two



WATER WORKS.



RESIDENCE OF S. M. JONES, MONROE STREET.

of the war and the declaration of peace, in 1814-15, that quiet was fully restored to the settlers along the Maumee.

On account of the glowing reports of the fertility of the Maumee valley region, immigration increased year after year. A company from Cincinnati, among whom were several officers who had served with General Harrison, purchased four hundred acres of land around the mouth of Swan Creek, and laid out the village of Port Lawrence. Financial embarrassment caused them to relinquish their claim, and it reverted to the government. The village made but little improvement for some years. A second village was laid out by Major Stickney, an enterprising Indian agent, which he named Vistula. The site of this village was a tract of land adjoining the Port Lawrence tract on the north and running to the river. In 1832 Vistula was one of the most enterprising of the many settlements along the river, and in the year 1833

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



PRESQUE ISLE.

to raise a quarter of a dollar to get a letter out of the postoffice."

In his memoirs, that eminent and worthy gentleman of the early pioneers, Jessup W. Scott, thus speaks of the great financial revulsion which succeeded the era of wild speculation and colossal air-castle building: "In 1835 commenced that memorable speculation in wild lands and wild cities, which culminated in 1836. The whole Maumee Valley was filled with fortune hunters. Congress and state lands were

raced for entry, and the shores of the river, from Fort Wayne to the Maumee Bay, were alive with city builders. From the foot of the rapids to the bay, all the land was considered necessary for the erection of 3-story brick blocks, and after the canal was located on the north side, all the shore from Waterville to Manhattan was held as city property. Jackson's specie circular soon brought these airy fabrics into ruin. In 1844 Toledo was but



VIEW IN CITY PARK.



PARK SCENE.



WOODLAWN CEMETERY.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



IN RIVERSIDE PARK.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.



VIEW IN TOLEDO HARBOR.

origin, progress and end of that memorable and bloodless conflict is given in the Centennial address of Hon. Thomas Dunlap, before alluded to, from which a few points are given: The contest arose over the jurisdiction of that strip of land lying north of the line fixed by Congress as the northern boundary of Ohio, called the Fulton line, and south of another line, called the Harris line, fixed by Ohio, and to which Congress had never assented. This strip of land, about seven miles, where it meets Lake Erie, includes the mouth of the Maumee and the present city of Toledo. Such organization as it had was under the Territory of Michigan. The projected canal, which was to furnish a channel of commerce for the future great city, to connect somewhere with Lake Erie, became an object of absorbing interest. The harbor of Toledo, situated in Michigan territory, seemed the natural outlet of the canal. The State of Ohio, in asserting claims to the strip of land in question, received the hearty, interested partisanship of many residents of Toledo. The older, non-speculative, conservative settlers were content to remain under the jurisdiction of Michigan.

March 12, 1835, delegates from Port Lawrence Township, addressed a communication to Hon. Stevens T. Mason, acting governor of Michigan Territory, asking a special act of the legislature, authorizing the removal of the place for holding their township meeting, because they apprehended a riot if the meeting was held in Toledo, "the heart of the hot-bed of disaffection." The request was granted, and as previously stated, the meeting was held at the Ten Mile Creek school-house.

On the other hand, many of the leading settlers determined to remain in Toledo, and to sustain the jurisdiction of Ohio. The allegiance of the settlers being thus divided, resistance was made to the execution of civil process and to the collection of taxes under either authority. Fierce encounters between the contending partisans were of almost daily occurrence. A meeting in the Phillips

little more than the dead carcass of speculation. It had acquired a widespread and almost universally believed character for insalubrity. Much sickness and distress were suffered. When, therefore, the canal began to give it a business worth naming, its reputation for sickness had become such as to divert from it, to other western cities, most of the enterprising business men, who flocked thither from the old states and Europe. Its rivals were very industrious in giving and keeping alive the bad name, which it had, in its speculative existence, to some extent deserved. This tide and its reaction built up, in a very short time, the cities of Chicago and Milwaukee."

The Ohio and Michigan War.—The year 1835 witnessed the turmoil between Ohio and Michigan, during which the ridiculous scenes enacted, the proclamations promulgated and the many incidents, romantic, interesting, amusing and otherwise, would fill a volume. A most comprehensive account of the



WALBRIDGE PARK.

The request was granted, and as previously



WOODLAWN CEMETERY.



VIEW IN WALBRIDGE PARK.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.

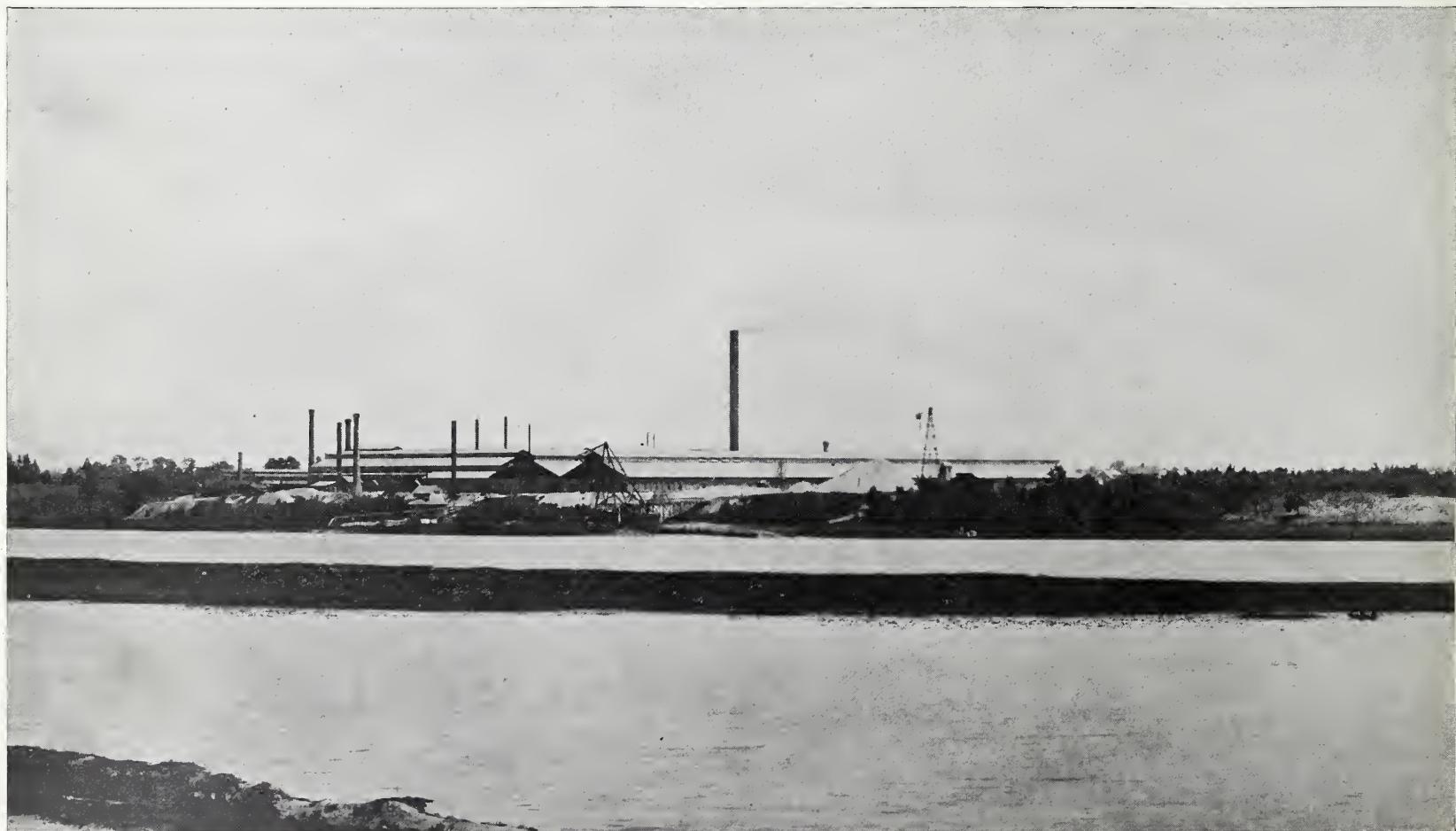


A STREET IN ROSSFORD.

A suburb of Toledo, when two years old, and where the Ford Glass Works are located.

Tavern at Tremainsville broke up in a fight and general row. In the spring of 1835, Governor Lucas determined to run and re-mark the Harris line, and Governor Mason determined it should not be re-marked. Governor Lucas brought to his aid 600 Ohio militia, they going into camp at Fort Miami. Militia in other parts of the State were organizing for the fray. Under the direction of Governor Mason of Michigan, General Joseph W. Brown organized a force of 1,200 men for Michigan. The country became wild with excitement, and if everything had been left to the two governors, a collision would have been inevitable.

Governor Lucas was about to cross the Fulton line with his troops and take possession of Toledo. Then came two commissioners, Hon. Richard Rush and Colonel Howard, sent by President Jackson, to use their personal influence as peacemakers. With them also came the Hon. Elisha Whittlesey. On the 7th of April, after several conferences with both governors, the following propositions were submitted by them:



FORD PLATE GLASS WORKS, ROSSFORD, FROM WEST SIDE OF RIVER.

THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.

1. "That the Harris line should be run and re-marked, pursuant to an act of the last session of the legislature of Ohio, without interruption.

2. "The civil elections, under the laws of Ohio, throughout the disputed territory, having taken place, that the people residing upon it should be left to their own government, obeying the one jurisdiction or the other, as they may prefer, without molestation from the authorities of Ohio or Michigan, until the close of the next session of Congress."

Governor Lucas accepted the proposals of the commissioners, and disbanded his troops. Governor Mason, however, declined them. A few days afterwards General Brown was in Toledo with a sheriff's posse of 100 men, to arrest persons who had accepted office under the State of Ohio. Finally the Governor of Ohio, April 26, started a surveying party to run

the Harris line. William McNair, under-sheriff of Lenawee County, Michigan, arrested nine of the Ohio party in their camp, and took them before a justice at Tecumseh. This stopped survey proceedings. Benjamin F. Stickney, George McKay, Judge Wilson and others, were also arrested at Toledo, by Michigan officers. Andrew Palmer, editor of the Toledo "Gazette," and a warm partisan of Ohio, had a narrow escape by instant flight.

Governor Lucas was becoming impatient and chagrined at the situation. Ohio had failed to run and re-mark the Harris line, while many Ohio partisans were languishing in Michigan jails, or were subjected to the humiliation of giving bail for their appearance before Michigan criminal courts. His next move was to hold a court. September 7, 1835, was the day fixed by the Ohio legislature. The Ohio troops had been dispersed. General Brown with his 1,200 Wolverines, was on the alert. He was determined to capture the court officers, and thus prevent court being held. So he sent Captain Warner Wing with 100 men to occupy Toledo, with orders to watch the judges and arrest them if they attempted to hold court. Jonathan H. Jerome was the senior associate judge. Three judges constituted a quorum. Governor Lucas sent his adjutant general, Samuel C. Andrews, to advise with the judges and officers, and to back up the holding of the court. The adjutant general directed Colonel Van Fleet to call out his regiment. The colonel called, and 100 men responded. This was on Sunday, the 6th of September. All kinds of rumors were afloat regarding the Michigan soldiers in the town ready for the test. In this emergency Colonel Van Fleet offered to be responsible for the safety of the persons of the judges, and to insure the holding of the court, if they would obey his orders.

He said: "The 7th day of September will commence at mid-night. No hour is specified in the law when the court should be opened. Governor Lucas wants the court held, so that by its record he can show to the world that he has executed the laws of Ohio within the disputed territory, in spite of the vaporizing threats of Governor Mason. If we furnish him that record, we shall have done all that is required. Be ready to mount at 1 o'clock A. M. for Toledo. I will be ready with an escort and protect you.

The Wolverines in Toledo under Captain Wing, closed their eyes in undisturbed slumber that Sabbath evening, and did not awaken until after day had dawned on the 7th. But long before that time the first term of the Court of Common Pleas of Lucas County had been held. It opened at 3 o'clock Monday morning, September 7, 1835, dispatched business more rapidly and closed quicker than any held since that time. The judges and officers of the court were escorted by 20 armed men under command of Matthias Van Fleet, Colonel of the First Regiment, Second Brigade of the Seventeenth Division of Ohio militia. The court was held in the school house which stood where Washington street crossed the canal. This is the record of the proceedings:

"STATE OF OHIO, LUCAS COUNTY, ss:

At a Court of Common Pleas, begun and held at the court house in Toledo, in said county, on Monday, the 7th day of September, A. D. 1835, present: the Hon. Jonathan H. Jerome, sen., associate judge of said county, their Honors Baxter Bowman and William Wilson, associate judges. The court being opened in due form by the sheriff of said county, Horatio Conant being appointed clerk of said court, exhibited his bond with sureties accepted by the court, agreeably to the statute in such case made and provided. The court appointed John Baldwin, Robert Gower and Cyrus Holloway, commissioners for said county. No further business being before the court, the court adjourned without delay.

J. H. JEROME,
Associate Judge."

This brief primitive record marks the time when Lucas County became an organized body under the laws of Ohio. It was formed from portions of Wood and Sandusky Counties, with Toledo as the temporary seat of justice. Its eastern boundary is Lake Erie. It is joined on the south by Ottawa and Wood Counties, with the Maumee River forming a large extent of its southern boundary. Fulton County bounds it on the west, and Michigan on the north. Its area is 420 square miles. Its extreme length from east to west, along what was known as the "Fulton line," is 36 miles. Its



IN WALBRIDGE PARK.

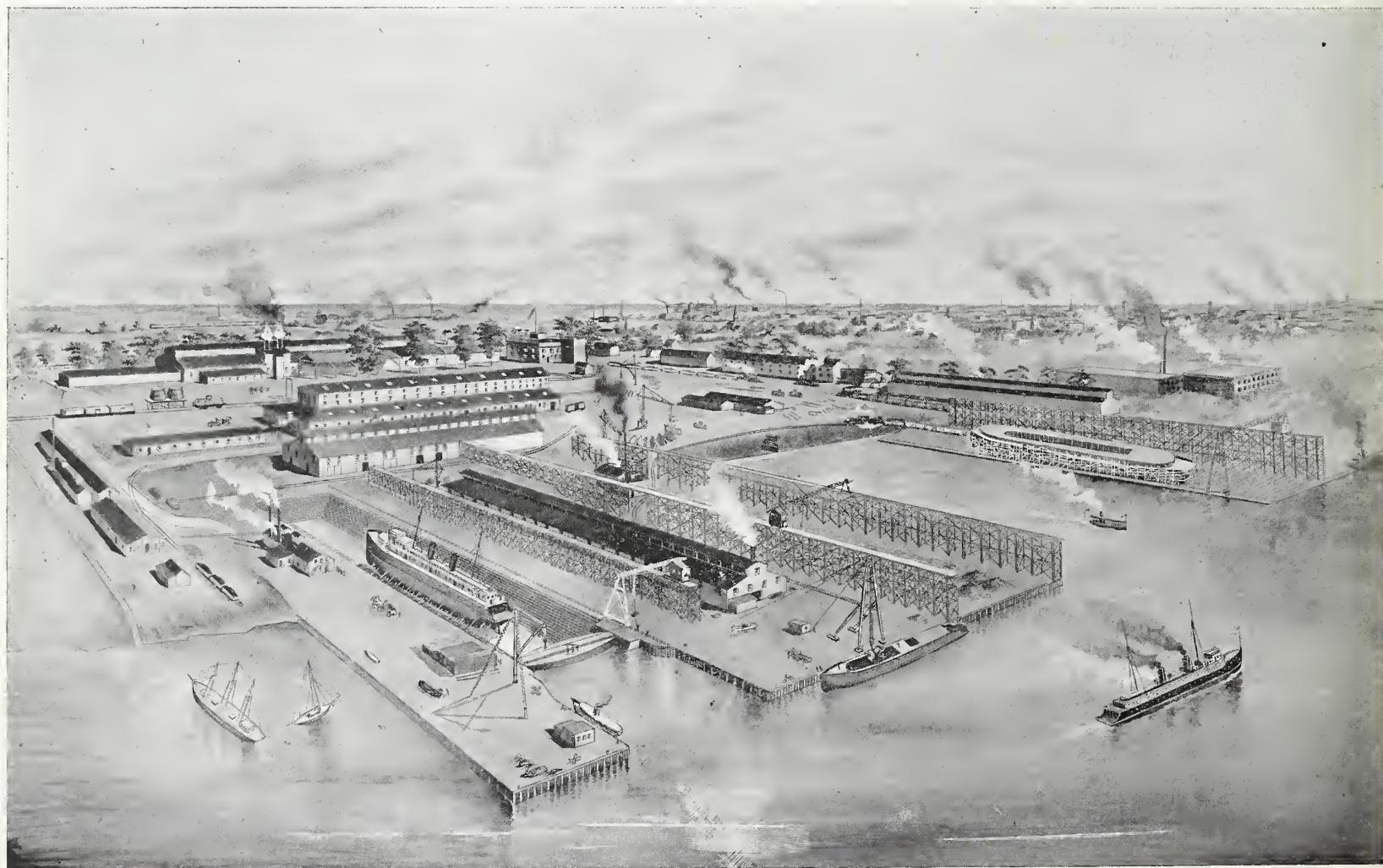
THE BOOK OF TOLEDO.

breadth along the western boundary is 21 miles. The principal water courses of the county are the Maumee River, the Ottawa River and Swan Creek.

In pursuance of their appointment by the first court held in and for Lucas County, the commissioners, John Baldwin, Robert Gower and Cyrus Holloway, met and organized as a board, in Toledo, for the first time, Monday, September 14, 1835, and appointed Samuel M. Young, county auditor; Eli Hubbard, county treasurer, Frederick Wright, county recorder.

The holding of this first court on that special date was deemed absolutely necessary to uphold the dignity of Ohio. The Ohio legislature, on the 20th of June previously, had solemnly enacted a law that "the Court of Common Pleas in said county should be holden on the first Monday of the next September." This was undoubtedly taken responsive to an act passed by the Legislative Council of the Territory of Michigan, February 10, 1835. That act was entitled, "an act to prevent the organization of a foreign jurisdiction within the limits of the Territory of Michigan." This act imposed a fine of \$1,000 and five years in prison for anyone who would officiate or accept an office by virtue of any commission not derived from the Territory of Michigan or the United States.

That a court had been held in obedience to the law-making power of Ohio, and that, too, in the midst of a hostile force to prevent that very thing, was a cause of much rejoicing and hilarity. When court adjourned, officers and escort went to a tavern kept by Munson H. Daniels, about where the Merchants' Hotel is on St. Clair Street, registered their names and took a drink all around. While discussing the events of the night, they were making preparations for a second drink around, when some one exclaimed, "the Michigan soldiers are coming." That second drink was not taken. They scattered, they scampered, helter-skelter, they sprang for their horses. There was mounting in hot haste, and away they went. About a mile distant the tall hat of the clerk of the court collided with the limb of a tree, and that hat contained the minutes of the court. This mishap halted the party. After brief consultation, it was resolved to return at any risk and secure those documents. It was unanimously decided that after all the trouble they had undergone to hold a court would be of no avail whatever if no record could be shown, and it was concluded that no record could be made without the minutes. After some patient search, to their great relief, the hat and the minutes of the court proceedings were found. They celebrated their good luck at once by two volleys from their guns. That noise awakened the sleeping infantry of Michigan's army, and was the first notice they had an Ohio court had been held in their midst during their watch on what they claimed as their territory.



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